THE NAGPUR BHONSLES.

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A View of Negros City

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P R E F A C E.

The History of the Bhonsles of Nagpur is practically a forgotten chapter in that of the bigger History of -- India. After 1850 when this dominion lapsed into the -- hands of the British Government no interest has been shown in the past greatness of the once famous Bhonsles of Nagpur who influenced the destines of powerful states like those of Poona, Hyderabad and Gwalior and also in a great measure - that of the British rule in India. To my knowledge the only English book available on the little known history of the Rajas of Nagpur was written some years after in -- 1926 by Mr.C.V.Wills an officer in the C.P.Government who loved history for its own sake. In truth his work does not give a complete account of the Bhonsle Dynasty. As the - author mentions in his introduction he desired only to -- give a sketch of "the relations between the British in -- Bengal and the Marathas of Nagpur from the days of Clive to those of Wellesley".

Besides the above valuable book on the Bhonsles, I - could obtain insufficient and disconnected material from cursory and incidental reference to the Rajas of Nagpur in the few standard works written on the maratha History.

My attempt to obtain the original sources for my -- thesis received a flattering response from the Nagpur -- Residency Record Office and from that of the Imperial -- Governments Record Office at Calcutta. During my two -- months work at Nagpur I could obtain copies of very valuable

and interesting despatches exchanged between the Calcutta Government and the British Officers e,g. Envoys and --- Residents at the Court of Nagpur. I was further encouraged in my work by the original materials I gleaned from the Imperial Record Office at Calcutta where I worked for over three months.

But to my distress my work was developing for the period of 1750-1825 into a one-sided point of view of the Bhonsle History. Though the relationship between the --- Nagpur and Calcutta Government was so cordial till 1803 - that we have few grounds to doubt the impartiality of the existing English Records on that period.

However I had made attempts to balance this same point of view, if it was possible and give a more impartial account in my work. But I must very reluctantly confess -- that my efforts resulted in failure. In fact the maratha version of the Bhonsle History since 1770 remained a blank to me. My efforts to obtain the old marathi manuscripts from the ancient maratha families in Nagpur received a very cold response. In some places excuses were made to avoid the subject and in very few cases the documents furnished were of no consideration at all. At the same time I am -- very pleased to note here,that for the period before 1750 I have been able to get some assistance from whatever --- marathi accounts that are available at present on the --- Bhonsles of Nagpur. Besides the accounts of Maratha History written in marathi particularly "the Riyasat" of Mr.G.S. -- Sardesai,the original documents of Raja Shahu's and the --

Peshwa's Daftar, collected by Vad and Parasnis and the recent collections of Mr.G.S.Sardesai were of very -- valuable help to me.

With the above help I have tried after nearly - three years work to make a few contributions towards the hitherto neglected History of the Bhonsles of Nagpur.

With these words I will here take the opportunity to thank and acknowledge my deep obligation to the various institutions and friends who helped me in my work. My thanks and gratitude are particularly due to my very revered and - kind Director Father Heras whose kindness generosity and - very helpful guidance facilitated a rather difficult ---- undertaking.

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THE NAGPUR BHONSLES.

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CHAPTER I

THE HOUSE OF BHONSLE & ITS ADVENT INTO BERAR.

I PURSOJI.

Middle of the 17th Century. The House of Bhonsle first came into prominence when Pursoji Bhonsle distinguished himself in the service of the renowned Shivaji. Pursoji was one of the three sons of - one Mudhoji Bhonsle. We do not know whether Mudhoji Bhonsle was a Wutundar or a mere peasant. It is just possible that Pursoji Bhonsle referred to by Grant Duff as a Wutundar of the village of Dewoor near Satara[1] might have inherited the property from his father Mudhoji.

About Pursoji Bhonsle's services rendered to Shivaji history gives no details,except a general reference which says that he served well and loyally as an officer in the army,when Raja Shivaji was very busy against the Mughals.

1696 A.D. After the death of Shivaji,Pursoji Bhonsle with a fellow officer named Hybut Rao Nimbalkar,joined the service under the well-known Santaji Ghorpade who was then one of the Pradhans at the Maratha Capital of Satara,holding the office of the Commander-in-Chief (Senapati) of the State's army.

On one of his expeditions into the Deccan,Santaji left behind Pursoji and Hybut Rao,in Gungthuree and Berar to spirit up the Marathas there,whilst he himself moved into the Carnatic. Grant Duff says that Pursoji collected the Maratha - dues from Berar,which leads us to infer,that hemust have been assigned to that part

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1. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, I, p.289.

of the Deccan by Santaji, whilst Gungthuree fell to the control of Hybut Rao[1].

1698 A.D. However Pursoji was not long in the service of Santaji, as that brave soldier was treacherously killed because he excited the jealousy of Dhanaji Jadhav, another superior officer at the Court of Satara. Pursoji now secured an appointment under the Regent ----- Rajaram. He was one of the officers of an expedition which ----- Rajaram shortly led out, to gather Chouth and Sardeshmukhi in ---- Gungthuree, Nander, Berar and Khandesh.

1699 A.D. After Rajaram had collected his dues he decided to return to Satara . But before going back to the capital, he left behind officers in different parts of the Deccan, to serve as his collectors in the future, and work as the Military Rulers of the allotted ---- districts. For his past experience in Berar, Pursoji Bhonsle was assigned that province to rule.

On Pursoji being made the representative of Satara, Rajaram bestowed on him the title of Sena Sahib Subah, and awarded the ---- banner "Juree Patka" or the Golden Pennon - Grant Duff writes that in the future this banner was always carried before the Bhonsles of Nagpur, and it was regularly sent to each successor to the title by the Raja or the Peshwa[2] - a few months after Rajaram had made --- Pursoji the Sena Sahib Subah, he died in the year 1700.

1700-1707 A.D. As the officer in charge of Berar, Pursoji was now ---- brought under the service of the Regent Tarabai. He continued to be in the post and carried on his duties for about seven more years till Prince Shahu was released from confinement at Delhi in 1707[3].

1/2. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas I, p.296-297.

3. Sardesai Marathi Riyasat Madhya Vibhag, I, p.199.

1707 A.D. Pursoji was the first Maratha official of note to ha joined Shahu and acknowledged him as a true ruler of Satara[1]. The Bhonsle's support to Shahu at this atage was invaluable. In fact his lead encouraged others to join the fortunes of Shahu, a ultimately to place him on the Satara Throne[2]. It must be said in justice to Raja Shahu, that he never forgot the deep obligation he owed to Pursoji Bhonsle. The Raja's future treatment of the Bhonsle's successors and family was always kind, benevolent and forgiving.

Pursoji did not live long after his help to Raja Shahu. He died about 1709[3].

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1. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas I p.314.

2. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century. p.6

3. Sardesai, Marathi Royasat, Madhya Vibhag I, p.199
   Jenkins, Report on the Nagpore Territaries, p.105.

Note:- Pursoji's death occurred in 1709 and not in 1715 as Grant Duff mentions (I, p.330). Mr.Sardesai and Jenkins gives the date as 1709 which is correct.

CHAPTER II.

FROM MILITARY SARDARS TO INDEPENDENT RULERS.

1. Kanhoji.

1709 A.D. To Pursoji Bhonsle's authority and rights succeeded his son Kanhoji. He was the only legitimate son mentioned of in the little known early history of the Nagpore Bhonsles.[1] Kanhoji like his father was a soldier and an enterprising man. From the little that we know of him it appears, that he was a man who loved his -- liberty, and hated a check on his actions. His constant disobedience of orders from his master, even when he was not strong enough - to slight the Satara authority, revealed a streak of rashness in his character. This same rashness of character, ultimately lost him all he possessed and placed him in prison for many years at Satara. Kanhoji being an ambitious man knew the value of -- renown as a successful soldier, and the usefulness of wealth for his future enterprises.

1709-1719 A.D. During the ten years that followed his accession to - power, he spent them in active excursions and plundering raids into alien territories, adjoining to those under his control in Berar - The neighbouring territories were under various rulers. Gondwana including Deogarh and Chanda were in the hands of Gond Chiefs. South Berar was still under the rule of the Nizam, whilst far in the east Chhutteesgarh and its dependencies were under petty rajahs of different races. Cuttack was in the hands of the Nawab of Bengal- Kanhoji through these expeditions succeeded in levying tributes in Gondwana, in the portions of Berar not under him, in parts of

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1. Sardesai; Marathi Riyasat Madhya Vibhag I, p.200.
Grant Duff, History of the Marathas I, p.330.

Carnatic and in Cuttack. But he never was able to attach any -- districts to his own, in a manner of complete conquests.[1]

Whilst Kanhoji was busy with his excursions, the other maratha generals had overrun the varoius parts of the Deccan, and so constituted themselves as an acute menace, to the power of the mughul Viceroy ~~x~~ in the south. By 1716 the new Viceroy of the Delhi Emperor, Husein Ali Khan the younger of the famous Sayyid brothers, saw the value of having them as his allies. Through a clever maratha officer in his service named Sankraji Malhar, he - opened negotiations with the Satara Rajah. After some preliminary negotiations, an agreement was entered between Raja Shahu and the Viceroy in the year 1717.[2]

1717 A.D. The terms of the agreement were that tha marathas were allowed to levy chouth$ (one-fourth) and Sardeshmukhi (one-tenth) on the whole revenue of ths six Subahs of the Deccan. The ---- districts which had belonged to Shivaji the Great around Poona and Satara, were to be termed the"Swaraj" of the Marathas. In lieu of these terms Raja Shau was to pay 10 lakhs annually for Swaraj, and keep 15000 horses in readiness for the use of the Viceroy or the Emperor. He was also to see to the tranquility of the country, and to protect the people from plunder and ruin in the six Subahs of the Deccan.[3]

The Emperor Furukhshiar however refused to ratify the - above agreement. But as the Sayyids were in fact the power behind the throne at Delhi, Husein Ali in defiance of the Emperor's -- refusal, allowed the Marathas to place their collectors to gather

1. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas I, p.334.
2. " " " " " I, p.335.
3. " " " " " I, p.336.

the dues, from the six Subahas of the Deccan.

1718-1719 A.D. Hardly a year had passed, when the antagonism at the Delhi Court between the Emperor and the elder Sayyid had reached a climax. Furukhshiar openly declared himself against the Sayyids, and each party prepared for war. Husein Ali promptly gathered his forces in the Deccan, to go to the help of his brother. He called on the Maratha Raja to keep his agreement, by supplying the ----- stipulated number of horsemen. Raja Shahu obeyed the demand, and sent Balaji Vishwanath and Khanderao Dabhade with a sufficiently large contingent. Kanhoji had been ordered to join them, but he - excused himself, and sent instead a body of men in charge of two of his relatives, Santaji and Ranoji Bhonsle both sons of Bapuji --- brother of Pursoji Bhonsle.[1]

The Emperor Furukhshiar was overawed by such martial display. He made his submission to the Sayyids, but carried on his intrigues to destroy them. In the end the brothers getting tired of being constantly on the alert for treachery, put him to death.

1720 A.D. Balaji and his Marathas stayed in Delhi until the -- accession of Mahomed Shah in 1720. But before that event Santaji Bhonsle with 1500 of his men, had died at the hands of the turbulent populace, during the tumult which preceded the confinement and death of Furukhshiar.[2]

The Sayyids soon after the accession made the Emperor Mahomed Shah ratify the agreement, which Husein Ali had entered into with the Marathas. Raja Shahu had ordered Balaji Vishwanath, that

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1. Sardesai's Marathi Riyasat Madhya Vibhag I, p.200.
   Grant Duff's History of the Marathas p,337-339.
2. " " " " " p.337.

when the ratification was to be performed, he was to urge the -- Emperor, to grant also the collection of Chouth and Sardeshmukhi c those territories, which Pursoji and Kanhoji Bhonsle had brought - under their influence. Grant Duff mentions, that in the Farman -- granted to Shahu, no reference is made to those newly acquired --- territories, but it is probable that a verbal promise may have bee given for the future acknowledgment of such a right.[1]

The grant of the Farman by the Emperor made the Maratha right to levy contributions more secure. Kanhoji Bhonsle was sent definite orders for the collection from territories under his -- control. Kanhoji like the other Maratha chiefs in charge of various provinces, was in fact a feudal Lord absolutely independent in his province, consenting to a nominal superior authority of the Satara Raja. He had made his permanent residence in the town of Bham " now the site of extensive ruins in the modern Yeotmal -- district."[2] From here he controlled the Berar painghat i.e. practically all Berar north of the Painganga river according to Lyall's map in his Gazetteer of Berar p.135.

1720 A.D. By this time another prominent officer of the Empire, Nizam-ul-Mulk, was beginning to fret under the tutelage of the -- Sayyids. He was then the Governor of Malwa, but found his position so insecure, that he decided to create for himself a principality in the Deccan, in defiance of the King-makers, the Sayyids. He -- raised a definite revolt in 1720, assumed the title of Asaf Jah and marched southwards.

But he did not find an easy passage to gain his ambitious

1. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas I. p.342.
2. Wills, Nagpore State in the 18th Century. p.6.

designs. He was faced by two armies under the orders of the - Sayyids. Dilawar Husein was moving south from Malwa, and Alam Ali Khan the Deputy Viceroy in the Deccan, was moving north to join him. Asaf Jah however could not be deterred from his --- purpose. He was a clever and a cunning general. His design now was to keep both armies from uniting. In this aim he was aided by the over-confident and impetuous generalship of Dilawar --- Husein. The imperial general without waiting for Alam Ali Khan, was drawn into a battle By Nizam-ul-Mulk. The experienced Asaf Jah soon won a victory and marched south to meet Alam Ali Khan.

Alam Ali's army was supported by a maratha contingent under Khanderao Dabhade, Kanhoji Bhonsle and other Maratha --- officials. The Nizam himself had a maratha following under the disaffected chiefs from Shahu 's Court like Chandrasen Jadhav - and Nimbalkar, assisted by a body of soldiers under the Raja -- Sambhaji of Kolhapur.

The battle fought at Balapur in Berar Painghat, was won by Nizam-ul-Mulk. Alam Ali Khan was slain fighting, well-supported by the gallant band of Marathas.

This was the first battle in which Kanhoji Bhonsle took a leading part.[1] .Unfortunately we do not know how he acquitted - himself on the battle field, but we can surmise that he must have acquitted himself as a brave commander.

At this stage it must be noted that historical facts - relative to activities of Pursoji Bhonsle and his son Kanhoji-

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1. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas I, p.348.
Sardesai's Marathi Riyasat Madhya Vibhag I, p.200.

are very rare and scarcely to be obtained. They are gleaned from prime events of the general Maratha history as mentioned above, and from the very few available letters in the diaries of Raja Shahu and the Peshwas.

1725 A.D. After Kanhoji's part in the battle of Balapur we learn nothing about him till the year 1725. In this year Chimnaji Appa th brother of the Peshwa received a letter, alleged by Mr.Sardesai to be written by Mahadoba Purandare giving an account of the activities of Kanhoji against Raja Shahu. The letter states that " the hostile intention of Kanhoji was known to all. He went to Kumatheya on the pretext of bringing some fodder for his animal,but left behind his - tents. With 200 raoots and camels he crossed the Ghats of Nahabi and reached the place of Yesaji Shinde on Tuesday at Tasgaon. This news of Kanhoji was furnished to the Raja Shahu,who at once ordered --- Yemaji Sibdeva to advance and also sent Bhagwat Samraj and Gopal -- Prabhu."[1]

The news had been brought to the Raja in the very early part of the morning, and so a few hours after, by the coming on of - day light, Shahu himself followed his force and insisted upon going to where Kanhoji was located.

Yemaji however pursuaded the Raja to stay back and --- himself proceeded with a force in quest of Kanhoji. Reaching ---- Puse-savli the officers learnt that Kanhoji was still at Tasgaon. The Raja ordered Yemaji to stay near Tasgaon with an additional force of 500 to 700 men and fall on Kanhoji when he came out of Tasgaon. - Leaving these orders the Raja returned to Satara.[2]

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1. Sardesai Peshwa's [illegible]. Dafter Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles. Letter No.3.
2. " " " " " " " " "

The above letter of Chimnaji Appa reveals, that Kanhoji had begun in a decided manner to slight the authority of the Raja, and try if he could to become an absolutely independent ruler. His very breach into the Raja's territory was an audacious venture -- which exposed clearly to what a stage Raja Shahu's power was --- declining.

Whether the action of Kanhoji was a rash step only to defy Raja Shahu's power, or taken in deep resentment for the ---- partition of his Saranjam in 1725; the accuracy of the dates to - these letters only can prove. If we agree with Mr.Sardesai in the inaccuracy of the date, and place the date of the above letter a - little later, our conjecture of Kanhoji's action against Shahu -- can be attributed to ~~xx~~ resentment. This conjecture receives -- support from the letter written by Bajirao to his brother Chimnaji Appa. Bajirao states that he had received news from Dadoba ----- Purandare, which said that Raja Shahu having consulted Fatehsing -- Bhonsle, had purposely given one-third of Kanhoji's Saranjam to -- Rughuji Bhonsle (a nephew of Kanhoji) who had gone to Satara, with a view to cause dissension between them. The Raja had also agreed to give in addition the district of Malkapur exclusively to ---- Rughuji.[1]

1726-27 A.D. We come across another letter about the division of th Saranjams from Mr.Vad's collection of letters of Shahu Raja but o a later date (1726-27). In it there is no mention made of the -- Raja's purpose to cause dissension between the Bhonsles. It --- declares that the division of Kanhoji's Saranjam was affected as below. One-third of the Saranjam given by the Peshwa, and one-fourth of the Saranjam given by the Raja Shahu, was taken ~~x~~ away -

1. Sardesai, Peshwa's Dafter, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles. Letter No.5.

from Kanhoji and given to his brother Rughuji and Ranoji.(calling Raghuji & Ranoji as ~~Kanhji~~ Kanhoji's brothers was a mistake).[1] The letter then went to say, that all three of them swore at the feet of the Raja that they would obey his orders and bury their differences to live amicably in the future. Kanhoji was also directed to divid three-fourths of the tribute levied by him ~~x~~ in foreign territories, between himself and Ranoji in the proportion of their respective -- armies.[2]

This letter of 1726-1727 make us conclude that Kanhoji -- Bhonsle must have been reconciled to Raja Shahu, and ~~these~~ three -- Bhonsles may have together asked their king to decide finally, ---- between their respective rights to property. The inference that -- Kanhoji was at this stage on good terms with his king, is supported by two other letters of Mr.Vad's collection of the same time ----- 1726-27. The two letters inform us, how Kanhoji Bhonsle tried to -- help Raja Shahu's forces, when his Peshwa was busy with an expedition into the south. The absence of the Peshwas and the Senapati into the South, offered an appropriate opportunity to the Nizam, to take -- advantage of the weak possession of Satara. He sent Aiwaz Khan into Berar, and himself moved in a north-westerly direction. Kanhoji ~~w~~- Bhonsle was surprised by Aiwaz Khan and suffered a bad defeat. The Bhonsle retreated into Aland in Prant Balaghat, where Chimnaji Pant Damodar one of Peshwa's Officer joined him. The Mughuls finding -- Kanhoji reinforced gave up pursuing him, and retreated.[3] Fatehsing - Bhonsle and Naro Ram Mantri, two other officers of Shahu in charge of different detachments, who were to join Chimnaji Damodar and proceed

1. Ibid.
2. Vad, Letters from Raja Shahu's Diaries. Letter No.163
3. " " " " " " Letter No.22.

to the help of the Peshwa, learning of the Bhonsle's plight decided hurrying to his aid. They wrote to Raja Shahu about their decision and received in reply orders to console Bhonsle and send him on to Satara.[1]

In the meanwhile the Peshwa Baji Rao was not quite ---- successful in his campaign in the south, and disappointed he returned hurriedly to Satara, because the Nizam was in the vicinity of the -- Capital with a large force.

Later on in the same year, Kanhoji Bhonsle received a letter from Raja Shahu which asked him, that before the Bhonsle came to ---- Satara he was to put down the insurrection of Chandrasen Jadhav.[2] In obedience to his master's orders, Kanhoji attacked Malkheda but did not succeed in drawing Chandrasen out of his fortified position. The Bhonsle then retreated to Kulburga. In lieu of his report about his activity against Chandrasen, Kanhaji received a reply from the Raja, -- which informed him that the Nizam was moving in his direction, and so he must guard himself, and act in union with Chimnaji Damodar and Naro Ram Mantri.[3]

1728-1729 A.D. Giving the above incidence of Kanhoji's history, the -- marathi records cease to mention about the Kanhoji's adventure till the end of 1728. We learn then, that it was when Bajirao was investing Malwa, that the Peshwa made some agreement with Ranoji Bhonsle, -- which Kanhoji did not like, and over which a quarrel ensued between the cousins. Bajirao interefered, by sending two officers to Kanhoji to - settle the dispute.[4] Kanhoji showed his resentment at such an intru-- sion into his domestic affairs, and insulted the Peshwa's ~~name~~.men. Bajirao wrote to Shahu, asking him to judge between them. Kanhoji on -

1. Vad, Letters from Raja Shahu's Diaries. Letter No. 23.
2. " " " " " " " No. 24, 26.
3. " " " " " " " -do-
4. " " " " " " " -do-

his own action had sent Bapuji Sonaji Dighe, to represent his case to the Raja.

After Bapuji had presented himself on behalf of Kanhoji, Shahu wrote to the Peshwa asking him not to interfere further in Kanhoji's affairs, as he was going through the case represent--ed by both sides.

1728-29A.D. It appears that the quarrel between Kanhoji and the Peshwa must have continued, and Raja Shahu in his weak state at Satara could not have been able to conciliate both the parties. Dadoba Purandare's letter to Chimnaji Appa[1] reveals, that Kanhoji had joined the Nizam. Purandare complains that Nizam had broken his agreement with the Marathas, by giving a cordial reception and employment first to Udaji Chawan, and afterwards to Kanhoji - Bhonsle.

1729 A.D. Considering himself quite strong by his alliance with the the Nizam, Kanhoji Bhonsle again moved against the private - territories of Raja Shahu. For this step he received a strong letter of remonstrance from Shahu.[2] The Raja reprimanded Kanhoji for plundering in his lands and harassing his Zamindars and landowners. The Raja warned him that if he persisted in his - attempts, he would be severely punished and shown no mercy.

Kanhoji must have ignored the Raja's warning, and persist--ed in his hostile actions against Shahu, because we learn that they were never reconciled after 1728 A.D.

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1. Sardesai, Peshwa's Daftar, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles. Letter No.10.
2. " " " " " " " " Letter No.13.

1734 A.D. Shahu's attitude towards Kanhoji was generous and - forgiving. The Raja overlooked his misbehaviour for a long time till 1734. But the Bhonsle's studied activities against him and his refusal to pay his longstanding dues, must have exhausted his kind regards towards him and made him very angry with Kanhoji.When Shahu was aroused he had always proved himself a formidable enemy. The Raja selected Raghu Rughuji, Kanhoji's own nephew to lead an army against the rash rebel.[1] Rughuji an ambitious young man found the task quite to his liking; because it paved the way to an earlier succession to the powers of Kanhoji.

Rughuji Bhonsle who had grown into quite an experienced soldier, found no difficulty in defeating Kanhoji and capturing him. The Bhonsle was sent as prisoner to Satara, where he was kept in - close confinement for many years.[2] As to whther Kanhoji died in - prison or was released before his death little is known.

In giving a final estimate of Kanhoji's ch-aracter, we have to admit that he must have been a bold and an arrogant soldier.He made himself fairly powerful and was feared and respected, till he rashly made an enemy of Raja Shahu, which blunder cost him his - liberty and power. His sway in Berar and in some districts in the neighbourhood, was well established and whatever fruits which his labours bore, were enjoyed by his successor Rughuji Bhonsle.

1.Grant Duff,History of the Marathas I, p.385.
Sardesai,Marathi Riyasat,Madhya Vibhag,I,p.201.

2.Wills,The Nagpur State in the 18th Century,p.7.
Grant Duff, History of the Marathas I,p.383.

2. Raghuji Bhonsle.

1734 A.D. Rughuji Bhonsle who succeeded Kanhoji was born in - 1698 A.D. to Bimbaji who was the third son of Bapuji, the brother of Pursoji. His birth took place at his father's village of Pandowree near Poona.[1] Rughuji started life as a common soldier holding no high rank under his relative Kanhoji.[2] He soon showed superior intelligence, activity and a restless spirit. He did not take long, to win Kanhoji's favour, and that general having no son of his own, and because Rughuji was a close relative, - decided on adopting him as his son. But later when a son was born to Kanhoji, his regards towards Rughuji changed, and he no longer treated him as his would be adopted son.[3] Becoming - disgusted at the marked neglect and slight which characterised Kanhoji's present treatment of him, Rughuji decided leaving his relative's service. With the help of one Ramaji Narayan Kolhatkar at Shahu's Court, he got himself enlisted in the Raja's army. As a soldier under Sahu Shahu, Rughuji tried his best to win the affections of his master. Opportunity however soon came his way. It is related that at one of the hunting excursions, Rughuji had the chance to save Raja Shahu's life from an attacking tiger. Rughuji using promptness and resource took the tiger's assault on his shield, and despatched it with his sword. Raja Shahu was a

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2. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas I, p.383.
1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.105.
3. " " " " " p.105.
4. Sardesai, Marathi Riyasat, Madhya Vibhag I, p.200.

great deal pleased with such bravery, and in deep gratitude always looked on Rughuji with favour.

Raghuji was not long in the service of Raja Shahu. When Kanhoji attacked Gondwana under some pretext, the ruling chief of the province named Bukht Buland[1] defeated him and made him retire. Bukht Buland's victory was achieved because of the distinguished aid he had received from Santaji Bhonsle, Kanhoji's cousin who had lately joined the Muhomedan prince, leaving Kanhoji's service in disgust, because of his misrule at Bham.[2] Rughuji hearing of his cousin's brave help to the muslim prince, asked Raja Shahu to be allowed to go and fight under Santaji. Shahu agreed and Rughuji became a soldier in the Gondwana principality. Bukht Buland treat--ed him very generously and placed him under his own son Chand Sultan, urging on the young prince to see to the welfare of the young Maratha.

Becoming a full grown man, Rughuji went to Satara to get married. It is said that it was Bukht Buland who aided him with money to contract a marriage into a good Maratha family. But that was not quite necessary; Raja Shahu himself took him under his - patronage, and married him into his family.

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1. Bukht Buland was a Hindu Polygar who was forcibly converted into the Muhomedan religion when Aurangzib came to conquer the Deccan.(Grant Duff, I,p.383 Note I.)
2. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century. p.226,App.C.

Rughuji was married to Sulabai Mohite the first cousin of Sagunabai Mohite the youngest of Raja Shahu's wives.[1] Rughuji's marriage into Shahu's family,was the only connection,which the two Bhonsle houses had with one another. Later on just before - and after Raja Shahu's death, there were rumours spread and ---- stories fabricated,about the close relationship of the two houses in the very early stages of their inception, with a view to -- advance the importance of the Bhonsle House of Nagpur.

1734 A.D. When Rughuji took over a definite charge of Kanhoji's authority, he assumed the powers of Sena Sahib Subah under quite a different basis. His agreement with Raja Shahu,,was a recognition of his independent authority under the nominal suzerainity of -- the Satara Raja. To gain this very same recognition Kanhoji had acted just a little before his time, and so ~~that~~ lost his freedom and power, by his rash and rebellious actions. Rughuji was secured in his new position, because the political situation of Satara was gradually taking a new form, and ~~the pitha~~ Raja Shahu may have thought it wise, to give a fit status to an already overgrown power in -- Berar, whose friendly support to his authority, would be a challenge to the growing Brahmin influence in the maratha nation.

The agreement[2] entered into by Rughuji with Raja Shahu, demanded from the former that he must maintain 5000 horse for -- the service of the maratha state - He was to pay annually 9 lakhs of rupees towards the expenses of the Satara Raja's household.

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century p,222 App.A. Grant Duff records Rughji marriage with Shahu's sister-in-law of the Shirke family which is incorrect.(p.383 note.)
2. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, I, p.384. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century p,8.

From the revenue that Rughuji gathered in the shape of tribute, prize property and other collections except Ghasdana, fifty per cent was to go to the Satara Government treasury - No share of the Ghasdana was demanded, because that had been reserved in the past, for the family of the Nagpur Bhonsle by Rajaram - In ---- addition to the above demand, Rughuji had also to agree to raise 10000 horse, and put them under the command of the Peshwa, and if required to lead them personally whereever directed.

CHAPTER III.

RUGHUJI THE GREAT.- 1734-1755 A.D.

1735 A.D. After Rughuji's accession to the authority in Berar, - he must have been busy at home trying to consolidate his power, because we do not get any facts about him from the Marathi ---- records at Poona/~~or elsewhere,~~ except two small letters between the year ---- 1735-36. The first one[1] of 1735 states, that Rughuji had failed to send the full amount of the stipulated revenue to Satara. For that he had been warned many times in the past, to pay up, - but the Bhonsle had not complied. So this letter gave him a last warning, threatening to punish him, if he further failed to pay his dues.

The second letter[2] informs us, that Rughji Bhonsle had avoided attending the court at Satara, and so was informed that it was his duty, to pay his respects to his master regularly. That he must obey this last call, and repair ~~to~~ atonce to the presence, as there was some important mission to be entrusted to him.- As to why Rughuji failed to pay his dues so soon after his accession and for what important mission Raja Shahu called him to Satara, we do not know.

1737 A.D. The year 1737 saw Raja Shahu loosing a great deal of -

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1. Vad, Letters from Raja Shahu's Diaries, Letter No.164.
2. " " " " " " " No.165.

his authority at Satara. His power was gradually being drained away into the hands of the Brahmin Peshwa at his Court. The -- Peshwa Bajirao was receiving much more attention in the dealings, concerning the various, political matters of the state, whilst - Raja Shau stayed in his palace passing his time in gratifying his pleasures.

BEGINNING OF RUGHUJI'S CONFLICT WITH THE PESHWA.

Many of the non-Brahmins courtiers, decided to raise an - opposition party to the growing menace of the Peshwa; thinking to uphold the right of the Kshatriyas to rule. They could not find a suitable leader to carry on their policy, for some time, till - happily they sought the aid of Rughuji Bhonsle in their venture.[1]

The Bhonsle was only too willing to oblige, as at heart he had always objected to the sway which the Peshwa enjoyed at Shahu's Court. Raja Rughuji's family was of a superior maratha origin than those any other chief, like Holkar, Scindia or Gaikwar.[2] It was akin to the Satara family in many ways, and was recognised as such by the descendants of the Great Shivaji. The Bhonsle --- House in Berar got its powers from the king and not from the ---- Peshwa, as did the other chiefs. Rughuji Bhonsle thus became a most suitable person, to lead a party to oppose the Peshwa's plans of aggrandisement. It was at this stage as I mentioned above that the rumours and false stories were spread, about the close --- relationship between the two Bhonsle Houses of Shivaji and Pursoji.

1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.8.
2. Rughuji's family tried also to prove their Kshatriya origin, but failed to force the Brahmins to recognise them as such. (Wills p.216).

1738 A.D. Rughuji did not have to wait long to thwart the Peshwa. He soon gave a concrete proof of his opposition to Bajirao when he refused to help him against the Nizam in Malwa.[1]

In 1737 the Emperor had asked the Nizam to remove --- Bajirao from Malwa, in lieu of ~~kis~~ the Nizam's son Gazi-uddin --- Firuj-Jung being appointed there. The Nizam complied with the request, and led a large army to join the imperial force in ---- ousting Bajirao from Malwa. Being faced with ~~the~~ such an opposition, Bajirao naturally called on the maratha chiefs to come to -- his aid. Rughuji Bhonsle and Yeshwantrao Dabhade refused to --- obey the orders,[2] even the former had agreed to do so by his ~~treaty~~ treaty with Shahu in 1734. Grant Duff narrates, that the Peshwa was put later in a sore state by the large army of the mughals near the town of Bhopal. He sent beseeching letters to Rughuji -- Bhonsle, but that chief excused himself, fearing that he might be personally attacked by the Nizam.[3]

The maratha version of the campaign carried on by the Nizam is different. Accoding to Chimnaji Appa's letter to ---- Raghunath Bhat Patwardhan[4] at Nagpur, we learn, that the Nizam had been hemmed in from all sides ~~at~~ at Bhopal, and was badly in need of provisions. Bajirao had learnt that reinforcement and ----- provisions were being sent from Aurangabad to the Nizam, and so - Chimnaji was asked to write to Patwardhan, to induce Raja Rughuji again, to help the Peshwa now (even though the Bhonsle had -----

1. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, I, p.397.
2. Sardesai's Marathi Riyasat Madhya Vibhag, I, p.370.
3. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, I, p.397.
   Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.10.
4. Sardesai, Peshwa's Dafter, The Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles. Letter No.18.

refused demands for help in the past) by preventing the ---- reinforcement from proceeding further from Aurangabad. This - help Chimnaji wrote, would aid the Peshwa in defeating the -- Nizam. But we learn that Rughuji again refused to help.

Taking advantage of the fully occupied position of the Peshwa's forces, Rughuji invaded north of the Nurbudda, as far as Allahabad, where he defeated and slew the Nawab Shuja -- Khan, the Subahdar of the place and returned home loaded with -- booty.[1] He soon after ventured into Cuttack, which he raided and plundered; again returning with wealth to Nagpur.[2]

1739 A.D. When Bajirao heard of these plundering expeditions, he was furious at Rughuji's presumptions, and decided to punish --- such insubordination and disobedience of orders. Soon after -- his victory over the Nizam, he sent a raiding party under a ---- general Awjee Kawray to plunder in Berar. But Rughuji ---- boldly attacked Awjee, who was badly defeated.[3] The victory over Awjee Kawray was another slight on Bajirao's authority. But he could not satisfy his revenge, as circumstances made him put --- aside personal grievances, for a general and national calamity - in the shape of the invasion of Nadir Shah of Persia in India. He called for a general union of powers to fight the common --- enemy.

The temporary period of peace created between Rughuji and Bajirao by Nadir Shah's invasion was extended when that --- conqueror retired from India. History is silent as to how a long

1. Wills, Nagpur State in the 18th Century. p.10.
2. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas. I, p.402.
3. " " " of " " I, p.403.
   Sardesai's Marathi Riyasat Madhya Vibhag. I, p.386.

term of peace was achieved between two such persons who were quite ready to fly at each other's throat, as soon as opportunity presented itself. We can only agree with Grant Duff when he -- says,[1] that the clever Bajirao must have seen through the profitless enmity with Rughuji, whom he could employ better as an ally and friend to further the maratha and his own ascendency. He must have played on the patriotic sense of Rughuji, by admitting him to be a fellow creator of a bigger and better Maratha ---- Empire in the future. And in lieu of the compact Rughuji must have been lured, by giving him the control of the eastern ----- portions of the would-be Empire which included places rich in - plunder, like the Carnatic and Bengal.

To give a support to his professed plans, the Peshwa must have induced Raja Shahu, to make Rughuji Bhonsle the leader of the coming Carnatic expedition, and send him a letter of -- authority to lead it in Raja Shahu's name.[2] The army gathered for the expedition, contained the contingents from the Raja, the Peshwa and other chiefs. It numbered in all about 50000 men.

RUGHUJI'S CARNATIC CAMPAIGN.

Raja Shahu's intention in sending the expedition to the Carnatic, was to help Raja Pratapsing of Tanjore, who had -- called for his aid some years back, against the mahomedans who - had under Sadat Ullah Khan overrun the whole south-east of the Indian Peninsula.- But before Rughuji Bhonsle reached Tanjore,

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1. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, p.408.
2. " " " of " " p.420 Note.1

the Raja had made his peace with the muslims, and there was no - need any longer for the maratha help.[1]

1740 A.D. However the expedition had to gather the maratha dues in the south, and also to acquire fresh fields to levy contributions in the future. Hearing of Rughuji's invasion, Dost Ali -- Khan who had succeeded Sadat Ullah Khan in 1732, took steps to -- defend himself. He called on his son Safdar Ali and his son-in-law Chanda Sahib, to come to his aid. Both of them could not --- comply, as the former was busy in a distant campaign, whilst -- Chanda Sahib did not like leaving Trichanapolly, which he had -- lately acquired by fraud. Dost Ali was therefore forced to defend the Damalcherry pass, the way into the Carnatic, alone, with only - 10000 men. He occupied a strong position and might have repulsed Rughuji, but he could not stand against treachery and 50000 ---- marathas.[2] A Hindu chief in Dost Ali's army holding the key to the pass, deserted to the enemy, thus allowing Rughuji to press -- through a gorge south of Dost Ali, and attack his flank, front and rear. The Nawab was killed in the battle, his army scattered and his Diwan Mir Assud taken prisoner.

The death of Dost Ali made Safdar his son, retire to Arcot, and Chanda Sahib to fortify himself in Trichanapolly. Both these princes entrusted their families and valuables to ------ Mon.Dumas the Governor of Pondicherry.

Having plundered all around, Rughuji moved against - Arcot from where Safdar fled to Vellore. Here in August he -

1. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, I, p.420-1
2. Cincaid and Parasnis, History of the Marathas, p.273.

he made a treaty[1] with the marathas, agreeing to pay 10 millions rupees and to reinstate as the Nawab of Carnatic, all the hindu princes and landowners, whom his father had dispossessed. Rughuji in return was asked to reduce the power of Chand Sahib, about -- whom Safdar Ali was getting jealous. The maratha general gladly consented to do so. - Soon after the agreement Rughuji learnt - that the Peshwa Bajirao had died. He hurried to Satara with a -- small force, leaving the major portion of his army encamped on the Sew Gunga.

Whilst at Satara, he tried his utmost to prevent Balaji Bajirao from succeeding to father's office of the Peshwa. He -- proposed for the same post, the name of Bapuji Naik of Baramati, a wealthy man and enemy of Balaji. Bapuji's enmity to Balaji -- arose, when the latter failed to pay his debts to Bapuji Naik. However Rughuji's support of Bapuji was not enough, because Raja -- Shahu himself favoured Balaji, and the PratiNidhee would not help the Naik against Balaji. The struggle in the end was in the -- favour of Balaji, who was invested ~~wa~~ with the powers of the --- Peshwa.[2]

Having failed in his designs of creating his own ---- friend as Peshwa, Rughuji in disappointment left Satara for the Carnatic, carrying with him Bapuji Naik and accompanied by Shripatrao the PratiNidhee. According to his previous agreement with Safdar Ali, Rughuji led his army against Trichinopolly.[3] Besieging it for a short time, he learnt, that it was very well defended and provisioned, and ~~xxxxxx~~ could not be easily captured or not -----

1. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, I, p.421, and Kincaird & Parasnis, History of the Marathas, p.274.
2. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, I, p.422.
3. Cincaird & Parasnis, History of the Marathas, p.275.

captured at all. His only course to victory lay through cunning. He let it ~~xxx~~ be known that he was tired of the campaign, which had cost him a great deal of money, and so he intended returning westward. To give authenticity to the report he retreated southward to Shivajaya some 80 miles away from Trichanapolly.[1]

The ruse convinced Chanda Sahib, who sold all his stores and sent his brother Bara Sahib with 10000 men to invade Madura.-- When Rughuji heard that his deceit had trapped Chanda Sahib well into his hands, he hastened by forced marches to Trichanapolly and laid seige to it before Chanda Sahib could refill his granaries. Chanda Sahib defended the fort as best he could. He sent back for his brother, but Rughuji already had sent out 20000 men to intercept Bara Sahib, if he tried to come to his brother's aid. Later the maratha contingent clashed with the returning Bara Sahib, who -- gave them a valient fight, but a chance ball from a cannon killed him and his army dispersed.

The news of his brother's death did not make Chanda -- Sahib give up fighting. He was a brave soldier who kept his post from 15th December 1740 to 21st March 1941 without showing signs of defeat. However in March his provisions were exhausted and his ammunition ran short. Under such conditions fighting was being -- useless and Chanda Sahib agreed to surrender.[2] He was sent a ---- prisoner to Satara, where he remained in custody for 7 years in charge of Rughuji's agent.

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1. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas. I, p.422.
2. Cincaid & Parasnis, History of the Marathas, p.275.

1741.2 A.D. After his success against Trichinopoly Rughuji marches against Pondicherry from whose Governor he demand-ed the surrender of Chanda Sahib's family and valuables, an indemnity of 6 millions and a regular annual tribute.[1] Mons.Dumas the Governor had strongly defended himself -- suspecting Rughuji to come again, against Chanda Sahib. Mons.Dumas had 1200 French infantry and 5000 wel-equipped Mussalmans, drilled and disciplined according to European fashion. This was the first instance when Indian soldiers were used as sepoys.

Rughuji sent a message demanding as above but Dumas courteously but firmly replied that Frenchmen never paid tribute except to their own King,that they enjoyed this possession from the local princes who allowed them to stay as long as they did not molest temples and --- religion of the people. As for surrendering Chanda Sahib's family and jewels he could not, as a gentleman of France. That he was ready to fight if forced.[2]

Rughuji was surprised at such a bold reply and sent an envoy again to repeat his demands. This time Dumas took the envoy through the fortress and showed him how - wel-prepared they were and that there was no money to be had in the town. At the same time he sent 10 bottles of liqueurs for Rughuji as present.

When the envoy reported how the town was prepared and defended,Rughuji abandoned the idea of a siege and - after some negotiations to satisfy his honour,he retired with his army to Satara.

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1. Cincaid & Parasnis, History of the Marathas,II,pp.277-280.
2. Ibid. 3. Ibid.

THE MARATHA INCURSIONS INTO BENGAL.

1739 A.D. The affairs in Bengal soon after Nadir Shah's ----- invasion in India, were put into a disorder by the death of the able and efficient Viceroy ~~of~~ Shuja Khan. The Viceroy had left his charge in the hands of his son Sarfaraz Khan, a man of indolent habits, extremely addicted to religious practices and careless about temporal power. Shuja Khan before he died had raised a common soldier named Mirza Mahomed Ali to a very high station in life, because he admired the versatile qualities -- of this soldier. Mirza Mahomed had shown bright talents as an administrator; with this he coupled intrepid bravery and ---- undaunted prowess on the battlefield, and an acute sense ----- leadership. He was given the title of Mahomed Ali Vardi Khan and later made the deputy governor of the province of Bihar.

The province of Orissa on the death of Shuja Khan, was in the hands of Rustom Jung, otherwise known as Murshid-quli-Khan the son-in-law of Shuja Khan.

It did not take long for the careless habits of the new viceroy, to put the affairs of the government of Bengal in chaos.[1] The new officers he had appointed to the charge of most of the important posts, soon clashed with the designs of the old ---- councillors. These old and patriotic men naturally sought the aid of the best man in the provinces, Ali Vardi to redress these

1. Seir-Mutaqherin, Vol.I. p.326-28.

wrongs. Ali Vardi Khan wan quite flattered but he knew his own worth. His unbounded ambition however, drove him to usurp the - power himself. He wrote to the Emperor applying for his sanction to conquer Bengal in his name, offering to pay a crore of rupees - over and above the wealth taken from Sarfaraz Khan, and also to pay as annual tribute of another crore. The Emperor's permission for his aggrandisement, was easily obtained through the mediation of a ---- friend at Court, no other than the favourite of the Emperor, Issac Khan.

In the manner of an efficient commander, Ali Vardi --- planned his campaign. His army easily won a victory over that of Sarfaraz's ~~xy~~ at the battle of Gheria.(10th April 1740) Two days after the victory in the year 1153 of the Hedjra, Ali Vardi marched with all pomp and magnificance into the city of Murshidabad.[1]

1740 A.D. Becoming the viceroy of Bengal, Ali Vardi had to --- obtain the submission of the Deputy at Orissa. Murshid Quli Khan had refused to recognise Ali Vardi as his suzerain, and had ------- declared his independence. Ali Vardi bided his time, before he -- threw Rustam Jung out of Orissa. He was however soon forced to -- lead out his army when that Deputy, goaded by his wife Dardana --- Begum to avenge her half brother Sarfaraz Khan, marched from ----- Cuttack to Balasor, with the object of conquering Bengal.

1741 A.D. On the 3rd March after some weeks of waiting Rustam - Jung's impetuous son-in-law Baqr Ali Khan, left his impregnable --

1. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughal Empire, I, p.71
Seir-Mutaqherin, Vol.I, p.340.

trenches and numerous artilerry behind him and attacked Ali Vardi on the plains of Fulwari (4 miles north of Balasor Town). Vardi routed him, which made Murshid Quli to fly from Balasor and ---- eventually to Musulipattam.[1]

Leaving Orissa in charge of his nephew Sayf Ahmed, -- Vardi returned to Murshidabad. But his possession of Orissa -- was short-lived, as Baqr Ali raised a rebellion, put Sayd Ahmed in prison, and became the master of the province. Ali Vardi ---- quite indignant, came down ~~to~~ into Orissa, against defeated the -- rebel and settled the province into his nephew's hands.

FIRST MARATHA INCURSION (APRIL 1742)

Whilst returning to Murshidabad, Ali Vardi was ----- informed that marathas under Bhaskarpant, a general of Raja ---- Raghuji Bhonsle of Nagpur, were on their way into Bengal from -- Bihar. This news did not arouse any fear in Ali Vardi. On the - contrary he took the matter lightly, and sent a reply to his ---- nephew Zin-eddin Ahmed who was in charge of Bihar, that he would be quite prepared to face the marathas, when their hordes ----- penetrated into his territories.[2]

There are many reasons given for the maratha invasion of Bengal, but the main reasons of the many were, that the chauth from the Emperor was falling in arrears for the last two years, an so it was the Emperor himself who urged the marathas to obtain it

1. Sarkar's, Fall of the Mughul Empire, Vol.I, p.72-73.
2. Seir Mutaqherin, Vol.I, p.375.

themselves from Bengal by force. Gangaram in his "Maharastra--puran" with Holwell, Scrafton and other European Authors - writing on Bengal hold this opinion. Whilst Orme,"Seir Muta--qherin" and Muzaffernamah" State, that the incursion was due to the instigation of the Nizam, who feared that Ali Vardi would be soon entering his own territories,and also to divert the growing power of Raghuji Bhonsle from it. Seir Mutaqherin" enumerating the reasons suggests that the disturbed state of Bengal and the love of conquest of Raghuji were also important factors which must have encouraged such an enterprise. The last reasons appear more probable for such an invasion.

A few days after the report of their nearness to Bihar, the Marathas had rushed into Bengal, and turning towards Pachaet- and Mohorbhunj they fell upon the Midnapur country, before any news had reached of their crossing the border.[1] Vardi had not thought that the Marathas would dare and move into his dominions, or even that they would move so fast as to threaten Midnapur. In a state of false security he was moving leisurely to Murshi--dabad, with a small force of five to six thousand men,spending his time hunting and sporting.

Ali Vardi encamped at Sachra learnt that the Marathas were moving on to Burdwan. He could not have been worse provided as he was, for instantaneous action against such odds. He had lately disbanded much of his army after his suppression of the rebellion in Orissa and most of the men had returned to --- Murshidabad. He could only gather together about three to four

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1. Seir-Mutaqherin, I,p.376.
   Sarkar,Fall of the Mughul Empire,I,p.74.
   Banerji,Orissa,II,p.91.

thousand horse and about 5000 musketeers.[1] Even with such a small following he resolved to chance an action with the Marathas. He rapidly advanced into Burdwan,[2] a country well populated and very fertile, superior in material means to any other part of ~~its~~ his country. His arrival in the City of Burdwan from the north-east was in the nick of time, because his army faced a vast portion forces of the Marathas, which had just arrived, away across the City of Burdwan.

1742 A.D. In a short time both armies began hostilities in short skirmishes. Bhaskarpunt who had learnt of the bravery and intrepidity of Vardi's troops, and the great ability of the ~~leader~~ valourous commander, decided to try peaceful negotiations to achieve his purpose.

Bhaskar sent an envoy to Ali Vardi with the following message. "That as the Marathas had come from afar and were fatigued and jaded with their long marches they would be glad to return to their own country if he would but present them with so much as ten lakhs which small sum would be just enough to entertain them as his guest"[3] - the proposal shocked Vardi and his lieutenant Mustafakhan; they rejected it with disdain.

Here we find that the author of the"Seir"treats the incident very partially. What the poet Gangaram says is more probable. It was Vardi who sent an envoy to demand the reason for such an -- invasion, to which the reply was sent, that the Marathas had come for the Chouth. The Viceroy retaliated by stating, that the Chauth was

1. Seir-Mutaqherin,V.I,p.377.
   Sarkar,Fall of the Mughul Empire. V.I,p.74-75.
2. Riyaz-us-Salatin,p.338.
3. Seir-Mutaqherin,V.I,p.378.

paid to the Emperor, from whom it must be gathered. But when Bhaskar refused to retreat if he was not paid, there was nothing left but War, because Vardi could not get the Chauth or did not intend paying it.

Negotiations having failed the two armies began again with skirmishes. The Maratha warfare was new to the Mughuls and Afgans, which in the beginning made them lose many men and much of their baggage. This method of warfare soon tired the bold soldier like Vardi. It did not suit his temper nor his interest. He decided to leave behind his baggage, and with an unencumbered force, to try his fortune in an open battle.[1] Before marching on to the battle, he had sent out orders for the camp followers and baggage carriers, not to mix with the army. But as soon as the army advanced towards the attack, the people left behind, either feared the Maratha - horde or suspected Vardi to fly away and leave them alone to the mercy of the Marathas, they mingled with the soldiers and hampered their movements.[2] The Marathas had been only waiting for Vardi to attack hampered by his baggage. They soon surrounded the whole force. The Mughul troopers fought valiantly, but the Afgans under Mustafakhan, Shumsher and Sardar Khan lagged behind, giving Vardi no opportunity to regain his losses. In the hot pursuit of his - purpose of making an overwhelming attack on the main body of the Marathas, Ali Vardi himself had advanced with a small force, deeper into the enemy's lines. Finding himself cut off from the main - body of his army, he called a halt to consolidate his own position.

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1. Seir-Mutaqherin, V.I. p.379-81.

2. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughul Empire, V.I. p.76-78.

By this time the evening had far advanced, and soon the Maratha attacks all around slackened. Vardi was saved from a very critical situation. He had lost the battle, and with it his baggage which contained his riches. The Afgan treachery was probably the cause of Vardi's plight, though those generals had some true grounds for complaint against the Viceroy, However their action was -- dastardly.

Ali Vardi's condition was highly precarious. He had a small band of soldiers, no baggage and very little provision, whilst - hostile hordes of Marathas surrounded him.[1] Under such destitute circumstances, he had either to make his peace with the Marathas or fight his way back to Murshidabad which seemed about hopeless.

The Nawab opened negotiations with the Marathas, by sending one Mir-qhair-ollah-Khan a Deccani Muhomedan, as an envoy coming from the Raja of Burdwan. To ~~exep~~ expect reasonable terms of peace from -the Marathas, when Bhaskarpunt must have been aware of Vardi's condition, was a mistake. The Maratha general treated the envoy with absolute indifference, and showed surprise that the Nawab - could expect to enter into any agreement at all. However Bhaskar sent a reply that Vardi "is one of the greatest sovereigns of India, I consent to spare him for the sake of his station.But let him pay down one crore directly and surrender all his elephants".[2] Muzaffer--namah mentions that Bhaskar demanded Vardi's well-beloved Siraz-Uddoulah as hostage till the terms were fulfilled. Ali Vardi found Bhaskar Punt's demands outrageous, though it is hard to understand

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1.Banerji, Orissa,V.II,p.92.
Sarkar,Fall of the Mughul Empire.V.I,p.79.

2.Seir-Mutaqherin. V.I,p.382.

what he expected situated as he was. Jankiram his prime minister advised him to pay up the money, but the brave and stubborn spirit of the warrior xxx in Ali Vardi refused to be disheartened or -- broken. He decided on the hopeless alternative to fight his way through, to Murshidabad.

In the meantime the marathas were actively trying to - tempt Vardi's followers to desert him. A man of distinct ability in the Nawab's camp named Mir Habib[1] had already started treacherous negotiations with the marathas. Upto this year this man had a very chequered life. He had begun his adventures in India as a hawker in the port-town of Hugli. Being a native of Shiraz, in Persia, he obtained goods on credit from his countrymen merchants who were settled at Hugli. He was an illiterate man, but had a - ready wit, extreme suavity of speech, and a perfect command of the Persian language. Being a man of ambition and pushing ways, he -- soon made himself a part of the higher society of the xxx town. Securing a position under the Deputy Nawab Murshid Quli Khan of Orissa he, by dint of patient and hard work wormed himself into his master's favour. He showed great financial ability and utter lack of moral principals, both of which made him a great help to his patrons. Afterb his master's expulsion from Orissa, he ----- grudgingly joined the service of Ali Vardi, but always was ready - to do any harm he could to his new master. The advent of the --- Marathas in Bengal,[2] offered him an easy instrument to bring about Ali Vardi's downfall. Whether his enmity towards Ali Vardi, was a

1 Sarkar, Fall of the Mughul Empire, Vol.I, p.80-81.

2 Seir Mutaqherin, Vol.I, p.383.

result of a wish to revenge his late master,or as Scrafton suggests, because he was punished for his mismanagement as the Deputy in Decca, it seems probable that Mir Habib must have - been swayed by his overpowering ambition to join the Marathas against Ali Vardi.

The Nawab before he started on his hazardous venture, decided if he could to win over the discontented Afghans to his cause. He bravely entered their camp alone,taking with him his beloved Shiraz. Boldly entering the tent of Mustafa Khan, the leader of the Afghans he offered himself as sacrifice for his past misdeeds. He made a moving speech which won over the - Afghan general and the other officers,who eventually agreed to throw in their lot with him.

The Marathas however would not let him escape so -- easily without a general action. Just a day before he decided to start, the Nawab was attacked all over his scattered front. The fight began in the evening, and the suddenness of the move with the falling darkness, placed the Mughuls and the Afghans at extreme disadvantage. The Muslim soldiers fought with some - spirit, and soon reached a state of fanaticism because of their sorely desperate state. The Marathas lost more men than was - necessary, whibh intimidated them,and they retreated to form - themselves into one body to attack the Muslim flank. But --- this short interval at the same time served well the Bengal army. It hurriedly formed itself into a compact body,and quickly moved on in strict order, through the Maratha lines, towards the town of Cutwa.[1]

1. Seir Mutaqherin, I,pp.388-390.
Sarkar.Fall of the Mughul Empire.I.p.76.

In the last short action, the traitor Mir Habib had decided to desert to the maratha camp, but the rapidity of the action and the general confusion following it, made Mir Habib - to fight the marathas for the very safety of his own life. He was later overpowered and taken prisoner.[1] The march of the - small Bengal army to Cutwa, without food or covering, continuous harassed by the maratha army, was an achievement of a very ----- heroic band of soldiers. It was only the regard they had for the Nawab, and the pride they bore as brave Afghan and ---- Mughul soldiers, who never flinched before an infidal, that --- kept these men together. In an extremely destitute state the brave band of soldiers reached Cutwa.[2] Here they were in no -- better circumstances than before. The marathas had forestalled them, and these starved soldiers, on the verge of collapse, faced desolation and mute destruction. However Murshidabad being --- closer than before, Vardi's call for reinforcement and provision, was quickly answered, by Hadji Ahmed the Viceroy's brother who despatched Sayd Ahmed Khan his own son, with men and food to Cutwa.

Ali Vardi's successful retreat towards Murshidabad, heightened a great deal his already famous prestige. The ----- stubbornness and courage with which the half dying force, had -- battled his mighty army, made Bhaskar Pant very doubtful of his - success against Bengal. He desired, that the marathas aught to - retreat homewards with whatever they had gained, whilst the army was not paid.

1. Seir Mutaqherin, Vol.I, p.391.
   Sarkar, Fall of the Mughul Empire, Vol.I, p.78.
2. Seir Mutaqherin, Vol.I, p.392.
   Sarkar, Fall of the Mughul Empire, Vol.I, p.79.

Bhasker Pant's wish was strenuously opposed by the new force which had won its way into the maratha consultations. Mir Habib had proved in a short time by constant and zealous --- services that he was a staunch ally of the marathas. Bhaskar Pant had learnt to respect him and believe him. Mir Habib knew that Bhasker's position in Bengal was becoming more and more difficult owing to lack of funds to carry on the campaign. He therefore - offered, to get the money for him. He asked for a small but -- picked band of horsemen, to go and ~~pa~~ plunder the famous ---- Jaget Seth of Murshidabad, whilst Vardi was not yet in the city.

Though Bhasker Pant had granted Mir Habib a band of horsemen, he could not believe that Mir Habib would prove himself successful in this design. Fearing the coming of the rains he retired further back, from Cutwa, intending by slow marches to -- return to Berar.

In the meantime the Nawab having sufficiently rested his men for some days, moved on to Murshidabad as he feared the - marathas attack on the city. But before Vardi could reach his capital, Mir Habib entered it, plundered the Jaget Seth depriving him of two crores of rupees and some other goods.[1] He raided also parts of the city but retired hastily, when he learnt that the Viceroy was approaching Murshidabad rapidly. From ----- Murshidabad Mir Habib hurried in quest of Bhasker Pant. He -- overtook the maratha general in the vicinity of Birbhum. Surrendering the booty, Mir Habib upbraided Bhasker for his -- quitting actions, and by convincing speech made Bhasker believe,

1. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughul Empire, Vol.I, p.82.
Banerji, Orissa, Vol.II, p.92.

that with the maratha's generalship, theycould easily conquer the whole of Bengal. The force of flattery, and the vision of his future glory, made Bhasker decide on another attempt to -- conquer Bengal. The maratha army was brought to Sutwa, where it made its headquarters. Mir Habib to fulfil his promises - exerted himself in procuring necessary provisions, for the army and winning over the surrounding zemindars and merchants to the maratha cause. Later the capture of Hugli[1] by a ruse, brought more adherents to the cause, and money flowed into the maratha treasury, in the form of presents and contributions, for the -- revenue of the country and port duties. Mir Habib's actions - so convinced Bhasker Pant, that as a mark of appreciation, he - made him his Diwan.[2]

In the meanwhile, the Viceroy was recuperating, from the last campaign's exhaustions. He had encamped in the ---- suburbs of Amany-gunj and Taracpur, to leave the city of ---- Murshidabad more in safety. The floods in the river Bhagirathi made his position more secure, but his lands across the river were entirely left to the mercy of the marathas. Mir Calender the Faujdar of Midnapore had fortified himself in the fort, -- and Mir Moasam of Orissa had left for the mountains. Thus the marathas were masters of Orissa, Midnapore, Burdwan districts and part of Raj Shahy with the town and district of Akbarnagar and Rajmahal.[3]

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1. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughul Empire, Vol.I, p.84.- Banerji, Orissa, Vol.II, p.93.
2. Seir Mutaqherin, Vol.I, p.393-94.
3. " " Vol.I, p.395.- Banerji, Orissa, Vol.II, p.94.

The occupation of these districts by the marathas and their temporary rule of them was fraught with utmost cruelty, plunder and depradations.[1] Holwell writes that the marathas horse, committed horrid devastations and cruelties at Cassimbaz and ruined the silk manufacture there, by feeding their cattles and horses on mulberry plantations. Even Gangaram though he gives an exaggerated picture of maratha's successful management of the country, admits of many cases of rank cruelty and plunder. The English records show us, that many sufferers were taken into Calcutta city flying from the maratha cruelty. The English authorities fearing an attack asked the Nawab to create a defence for the town.[3] This led to the building of the Maratha Ditch, which was constructed 3 miles in six months.

Throughout the rains Ali Vardi was making great preparations to raise a sufficiently large army to drive away, once for all the marathas from Bengal. He called on his relatives to aid him with men and money. He bestowed titles on his Afghan Commanders and raised the numbers of soldiers under them. He distributed 10 lakhs of rupees amongst all those who had followed him in the last retreat and so won their affection.[2]

Whilst the Nawab was busy raising an army, and an imperial messenger came to his court demanding the revenues dues. Ali Vardi explained to the envoy his circumstances and wrote a long letter to the Emperor, entrusting it to the messenger in

1. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughul Empire, Vol.I, p.86-88.
2. Seir Mutaqherin, Vol.I, p.400-401.
3. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Political Letters to the Directors, August 20th 1751, II, p.33.

which he sketched his miserable condition, and asked the --- Emperor's help to drive away the marathas. He particularly - mentioned that if the marathas conquered Bengal, the Emperor would lose the revenue and the manufactured goods, which were - sent annually to make the royal ward-robe.[1]

Before the rainy season was over Ali Vardi was on the march. He left behind Nevazish Ahmed his eldest nephew with a brigade, in charge of Murshidabad. Moving from ------ Murshidabad the Nawab came down south, along the Bhagarathi -- river. He crossed the Bhagirathi by a bridge of boats, raised at Udhanpur, just above the junction of that river with the river Adji. Having crossed the river he faced the marathas right -- across the Adji at Cutwa, celebrating the Durga Puja[2] in great - pomp. His movements had been carried out with utmost secrecy. He had now to cross the Adji river, over which another bridge of boats was raised. The crossing of the Adji was begun at night, but a mishap which lost Vardi 1500 of his best men, the ----- surprise attack was delayed, till the early hours of the morning. When two to three thousand of his best men ventured to cut through the maratha camp. The spirited attack of this chosen band, took the marathas by complete surprise. A short while afterwards, - when Ali Vardi followed with his ~~mere~~ whole army all about, the --- maratha army was confusion. The big maratha host was scattered

1. Seir, Mutaqherin, Vol.I, p.402-403.
2. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughul Empire, Vol.I, p,91.
   Banerji, Orissa, Vol.I, p.96.

and fled rapidly with the least of their belongings. A small number of marathas were killed, much of their baggage captured including a vast amount of wealth. The loss at the battle of Cutwa,[1] made Bhasker Pant retreat at once into the hills of ---- Pachaet, where he was followed by Ali Vardi. Both the armies got so entangled in the forest district, that though they were close to one another, no decisive action could be taken against each other. Finding himself helpless to conduct his army, --- Bhasker Pant left it, in the abled and experienced charge of Mir Habib, who with the help of his knowledge of the surroundings, brought them back to the Bishanpur woods, and from there through the plains of Chandracona into the vicinity of Midnapore.[2]

Ali Vardi was kept ignorant of the maratha movements for some time, but later when he learnt, that they were near -- Midnapore he hurried to that district. Bhasker Pant was impressed by the Nawab's zeal and determination. He retreated before the Nawab's advance, into Balasor. The maratha pursuit was kept up and in the end getting tired of being so persistently dogged in their footsteps, the marathas were ordered to face the Bengal army. The marathas again suffered a heavy defeat though the --- Mughuls and Afghans also lost many men. The defeated army fled in utmost disorder, the Nawab close in their wake. Ali Vardi -

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1. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughul Empire, Vol.I, p.92.
2. Seir Mutaqherin, Vol.I, p.404-406.

persued them till the Chilka Lake,[1] but here he saw no signs of the marathas. Believing that he had finally driven them away from his territories, he returned homewards in all his glory as a successful commander.

Bhasker Pant returning to Nagpur related to his master the whole facts of the campaign. He enlarged on the - riches of the provinces, and the easy access they offered to - plunder. Rughuji Bhonsle who had just returned from the -- Carnatic, after a successful campaign there, was quite ready to pay back Ali Vardi for deeply humiliating his general, by making him fly so precipitately to Nagpur. Besides the Raja's financial condition had become very poor, so this chance of -- riches to be obtained from Bengal was readily taken.

This time however, Rughuji's army was not going to have an easy manner of exploiting the Bengal provinces. The Emperor as soon as he had received, Ali Vardi's reply to the -- demand for Bengal revenue, took steps to help his Viceroy in - preserving Bengal as a Mughul province, and so ensured his own revenue.[2] He had sent word to his general in Oudh, to go to the help of the Nawab of Bengal. He wrote also a highly remonstrating letter to the Peshwa, for failing to do his duty, in defending the imperial provinces, for which he was paid the chouth.

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1. Seir Mutagherin, Vol.I, p.406.
   Sarkar, Fall of the Mughul Empire, Vol.I, p.93.
   Banerji, Orissa, Vol.I, p.96.
2. Seir Mutagherin, Vol.II, p.2-7.

The Peshwa was therefore asked to go to the help of Ali Vardi, for which, the Emperor promised as reward, the arrears of chouth from Azimabad, and his confirmation to the province of Malwa.[1]

The Peshwa Balaji found it difficult to resist such a chance of furthering his prospects, and he relished very much the idea, of humiliating his all powerful enemy Rughuji Bhonsle. He however tried to disuade Rughuji by peaceful means, to abandon his Bengal campaign. The Peshwa wrote a letter to Ramchandra Baba who was with Rughuji, asking him to induce the Raja not to proceed to Patna.[2]

THE SECOND MARATHA INCURSION INTO BENGAL - 1743 A.D.

Rughuji Bhonsle did not swerve from his purpose. He was with an army in Bengal by the end of February 1743. The Peshwa followed him from Malwa, marching through the province of - Allahabad, and advancing straight on Bhagalpur.[3] Balaji took six days to march from Bhagalpur, through the hills of Rajmahal to reach the town of Banian Ganj, on the 13th March 1743. From - Birbhum he marched on Murshidabad. Reaching Murshidabad Balaji waited till the monetary settlements were fully confirmed.

Ali Vardi himself, was quite fully prepared with a huge army of 170000 men, to cope both with Rughuji and the Peshwa Balaji, if forced to do so. His treatment of the Peshwa was extremely courteous and frank, because he considered that Maratha to be his Emperor's man. Vardi did not hesitate to enter into

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1. Seir Mutaqherin, Vol.II, p.5-6.
2. Sardesai, Peshwa's Daftar, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles, L.No.26.
3. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughul Empire, Vol.I, p.95.

negotiations with the Peshwa and they soon reached a final agreement,[1] by which the Nawab consented to pay the chouth to Raja Shahu, and twenty two lakhs to the Peshwa, for his expenses in coming to his help. In return the Peshwa was to aid Vardi in driving away Rughuji Bhonsle.

The Bhonsle who was in the east of Bengal close to Murshidabad, was advancing to meet Ali Vardi. But when he heard that a compact had been concluded between the Nawab and the Peshwa, he thought it wise to retreat against their united forces. Ali Vardi however followed him ~~ex~~ in close pursuit of Rughuji, though Balaji asked him to wait for him. The Peshwa had not a very high opinion, of the Viceroy's military abilities. He decided to take another route to overtake Rughuji. The Peshwa Balaji moving faster soon overtook the Bhonsle. A battle was fought in the Birbhum district, and Rughuji suffered a heavy defeat, which made him retreat in quick haste to the western hills of Bengal.[2] Bhaskar Punt who had come with his master had encamped at Midnapur with a large detachment. When he learnt of ~~his~~ Rughuji's plight, himself moved away from the Bengal provinces. Rughuji Bhonsle after his humiliating defeat at the hands of the young Balaji, did not leave Bengal at once. He had some further light encounters with the force of Ali Vardi, which won for him no definite results, but on the contrary lost him some more men and cost him a great deal of money. The rains were

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1. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughul Empire, Vol.I, p.98.

2. Seir Mutaqherin. Vol.II, p.7.
   Banerji, Orissa, Vol.II, p, 97.
   Sarkar, Fall of the Mughul Empire. Vol.I, p, 99,

fast approaching and they decided Rughuji to march back to Nagpur.

RUGHUJI THREATENS SATARA AND ENTERS INTO A FINAL AGREEMENT WITH THE PESHWA TO DISTINGUISH THEIR AUTHORITIES.

In the last War, though Rughuji was forced to sue for peace with the Peshwa, the Bhonsle had no intention of remaining on amiable terms with the Peshwa, for the future. Until he was ready for a strenuous campaign against Balaji, Rughuji kept up a - friendly correspondence with Satara, and thus lulled the suspicions of the Peshwa. Having completed his arrangements for the provision of a large army, which he had gathered together, the Bhonsle led his force towards Satara.[1] Whilst on the march he did not make any martial display, or led the Peshwa to believe his real intentions. He declared that he was on his way to pay his respect to his Superiors. However at the very same time, Dumaji Gaekwar was also approaching the Maratha Capital with an army. The Peshwa became suspicious, and thought it wise to prepare for his defence. He looked about for satisfactory help, but the Pritee Nidhee was old + infirm from his recent sickness, and there was none other, quite worthy of consideration.

Under the circumstances, Balaji had to decide rapidly whether he should face Rughuji and fight, or resign Bengal to the Bhonsle. Discretion made him choose Rughuji's friendship. Raja Shahu was asked to mediate between the two parties, and with his help an

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1. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, Vol.I, p.431.
Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.13.

agreement satisfactory to both the Bhonsle and the Peshwa was concluded.[1]

In the autumn of 1743 A.D. The terms declared, that the Peshwa was to have his - original Mokassa and all jagirs bestowed on him, his father and grandfather. To have also governments of Koncan and Malwa; shares of revenue or tribute from Allahabad, Agra, and Ajmer; 3 Talukas in the Patna District; 20000 rupees from Arcot, and a few detached villages in Rughuji's own districts of Berar. The Peshwa's boundaries were defined by the Nurbudda, the Son --- and the Ganges.

On the other hand, Rughuji Bhonsle was left with the - collection of revenue and contributions from Lucknow, Patna and lower Bengal including Bihar. He was also given the authority, to levy tribute from the territory between Berar and Cuttack. This treaty thus left Rughuji Bhonsle, absolutely free to carry out his conquests in Bengal.

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1. Sardesai, Marathi Riyasat, Madhya Vibhag, p.48-49, V, II.
Sardesai, Peshwa's Daftar, The Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles, Letter No.31.

THE THIRD MARATHA INCURSION IN BENGAL.

Few months after the agreement with the Peshwa, Raghuji sent Bhaskar Punt in the month of March with a force to Bengal. The Maratha general was accompanied by Ali Carawal and Maratha Officers of note.[1] Ali Vardi in his usual manner was prepared, but this time he had decided to use cunning and treachery. In the past his honest attempts had won him no freedom from the Maratha menace - He had fought and beaten them. He had made a contract with the Peshwa, by which he paid heavy sums to him to win his protection, but in return the Peshwa had deserted him.

As soon as Bhaskar Punt was in Bengal, the Nawab opened - peaceful negotiations. His abject attitude and profession of - friendly feeling, lulled the suspicions of the Marathas. The behaviour of the envoys deceived everyone in the Maratha camp, except Mir Habib. When he warned Bhaskar Punt, Mir Habib was overwhelmed by the speeches of Mustafa Khan and Jankiram, Ali Vardi's envoys, who took oaths about the honesty of their intention. All the negotiations were intended, to induce Bhaskar and his officers to visit Ali Vardi, to discuss the final terms of the treaty with the Marathas. Orme says that Vardi even sent his wife to the Maratha general, to fetch him to the Bengal Camp. In the end Bhaskar was won over, and he agreed to go to the Bengal Camp. The Nawab made elaborate preparations, to receive the Maratha. A splendid tent was pitched with decorations on the plains of Mankera[2] to carry out a most gruesome murder of a famous Maratha general and

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1. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughul Empire, V.I, p.100.
   Seir-Mutaqherin. Vol.I, p.430-431.
2. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughul Empire, V.I, p.105.

staff.[1]
his/ The Maratha general, with his twenty two officers, was ~~his~~ conducted to the special tent ready for the Conference. Ali Vardi conversede with them for a short time and excused himself out. "The Seir" mentions that after Ali Vardi had left the tent, the - Mughul hidden in the folds of it, came out and fell on the Marathas,[2] killing them to a man. "Riyaz" is very dramatic about the incident, and says, that Ali Vardi was present at the Carnage, and ordered music to be played in tone of victory. The leaderless Martha army was simultaneously attacked, and put to flight. Many of the - Marathas were killed. Rughuji Gaekwar one of the Maratha Officers who had kept himself out, suspecting the Mughul intention; when he heard what had happened, he fled from the Bengal Camp, and carried away 10000 horse with him to Nagpur. Whatever bands of Marathas which were scattered in Burdwan, Dicknugur, Midnapur and Akbarnugur also retreated towards Nagpur.

1744 A.D. When Rughuji Bhonsle learnt of the disastrous end of - Bhaskar Punt's expedition into Bengal, and the murder of his officer he was furious. He must have longed to sally out with an army, and revenged the crime, but internal affairs kept him busy at home. He had not however longed to wait. His opportunity came when his spies at the Court of Dulabram, the new Deputy of Orissa, revealed a state of disorder and rebellion in Vardi's territories.

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1. Seir-Mutaqherin. I, p.436.

2. Riyaz-us-Salatin, p.349.
   Banerji, Orissa. II, p.97.
   Sarkar, Fall of the Mughul Empire. I, p.106.

THE FOURTH MARATHA INCURSION IN BENGAL- 1745 A.D.

Ordering a picked body of 14000 horse men, Rughuji Bhonsle was was soon on his way to Orissa. In Orissa he took Dulabram by -- surprise, who retreated to Bara-buty with a small force, under an able officer named Mir Abdul Aziz.[1] Ali Vardi was who was busy - against the rebellious Afgans in his own territories, was thus put in a dangerous position. Now his only way to safety, lay in causing delay through negotiations, so that in the meantime he could dispose of the rebels. Ali Vardi opened negotiations, intending to offer - small compensations, to induce the Marathas to return. But the Nawab haggled over terms to waste time, and cause a delay. However the - manner of his procedure made Rughuji sense Ali Vardi's purpose. He would have then and there attacked the Nawab, but fortunately for Ali Vardi, the rains intervened which decided the Bhonsle, to - seek shelter for his army.

Rughuji retired into Burdwar, and from there subdued the whole of Orissa as far as Midnapur and Hedjly, together with a great part of Burdwan. Whilst in camp, the Bhonsle received letters of supplication from the Afgan rebels, to come to their aid.[2] This was just what - Rughuji was willing to do, so that he could have an ally in his enter- -prise.

Just before the rains were over, Rughuji Bhonsle marched across the province of Azimabad, sacking towns and territories round about

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1. Banerji, Orissa, II, p.99.
   Sarkar, Fall of the Mughul Empire, I, p.119.
   Seir-Mutaqherin, II, p.3.
2. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughul Empire, I, p.121.
   Riyaz-us-Salatin, p.352.

Ticcary and Sheh-pura. Then on he forded the river Sohon, pierced the Sarseram hills and delivered the Afgans from their misery at Magror. Joined with the Afgan army, Rughuji descended the hills and encamped at Arvel about October 1745. His strength now - numbered 20000 horse.

When Ali Vardi learnt, that ~~Alix Vardi had~~ Rughuji had marched to the help of the Afgan, he followed the Maratha with 12000 horse,[1] all of whom old soldiers. From Bankipur the Nawab came to Nobutpur. Even here he did not see any signs of the Marathas. Advancing - further, he learnt that parties of Maratha Horse, were plundering in scattered places, even having attempted his baggage. Thus warned, the Viceroy put his army in fighting order, and advanced. He had marched during the night, when the early morning revealed signs of the Marathas at Rani's Reservoir at Muhelypur (Muhib-Aly-pur). Ali Vardi pitched his camp in the neighbourhood. The nearness of the Bengal army surprised the Marathas. Rughuji had not expected to be overtaken so early. Vardi's vanguard behaved impetuously in trying to take advantage of the Maratha surprise. The Maratha Raja was undaunted and drew up his army for a strenuous defence.

The Mughals might have achieved some success, but for the - losses suffered by one of the commanders, Abdul Ali Khan. In this action Rughuji was himself on the verge of being captured, owing to his bold and fearless behaviour on the field, whilst leading his men to the battle.[2] The result of the battle undecided, the falling -

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1. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughul Empire, I, p.122.

2. Seir-Mutaqherin, II, p.10-12.

darkness made both sides retreat. The Marathas went further - behind the usual camping ground, whilst Ali Vardi with his army stayed where he had decided to camp in the morning. The next day Rughuji retreated, followed by Ali Vardi offering him battle. Rughuji would not be drawn into an action, and kept on retreating.

In the days that followed, Ali Vardi was given reasons to doubt the honesty of some of his Afgan commanders. He felt that his position was becoming insecure. This made his Begum send - envoys to Rughuji to treat on equal basis. Rughuji Bhonsle was quite willing to end the matter, but Mir Habib who had always been a main force and guide of these expeditions, dissuaded the Raja, by showing him the advantage of taking possession of the undefended City of Murshidabad, which would make him the master of Bengal. The temptation was too much, for the pugnacious and acquisitive mind of the Bhonsle.[1] Refusing to treat, Rughuji marched rapidly on Murshidabad. The Nawab hastened in his wake, intending to march past him and reach Murshidabad. But the Nawab could not achieve his purpose, as he was not sufficiently well provided as regards his stores, and on his way he met scarcity and ruin owing to the - Maratha ravages.

From Azimabad to Bhagalpur, and then on to the town of Champa- -nugur, the Nawab kept up the pursuit. At Champanugur he detached a brigade, to pick out a suitable spot for his camp. With the remainder of his army, he stopped to rest under the trees of Champanugur.[2]

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1. Seir-Mutaqherin, II, p.12.
   Banerji, Orissa, II, p.100.

   r, Fall of the Mughal Empire, I, p.123.
   Seir-Mutaqherin, II, p.13.

November 1745 A.D. Rughuji who was always well informed surprised Ali Vardi by turning back, and attacking with five to six thousand horse. The Nawab surprised, faced the onslaughts - firmly and unflinchingly. Disaster was averted, by the bravery and bold leadership of a newly appointed officer, named Dost Muhomad Khan. When the Bengal army completely rallied to the orders of their officers, the tables were turned on the - Marathas. They were forced to give way, and in a short while afterwards made a hasty retreat.

The adverse result of this short encounter, made - Rughuji abandon the idea, of further surprise attacks. The next day he continued his march to Murshidabad. Vardi had sent a message to his nephew, of the approaching Maratha army, and - himself hurried to his help.[1]

The Marathas in their usual manner moved fast, and were near Murshidabad, much before Vardi. They sacked the suburbs of Chapaidah, and the one called Mirjaffer's Garden. Finding that Ali Vardi was close at hand, Rughuji moved to the southern and western suburbs. Coming to Murshidabad, the Nawab rested his men for four days and thence sought out Rughuji Bhonsle. The Maratha Raja had retreated, when he ~~fxixxs~~ failed to take - Murshidabad. He was overtaken by Ali Vardi at another of Rani's Reservoirs, at Cutwa.

Near this town ensued a sharp engagement, between the two armies. The result was not quite decisive, but both parties

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1. Seir-Mutaqherin, V.II, p.13.

losing many men.[1] The Maratha Raja however, was not sure about his own safety, and to avoid further loss of his men, he evaded open fields and skirted the hills, on the western back of Bengal. The Bengal army was close on its ~~kixix~~ heels. It did not take long for Rughuji, to lose all his patience, against the kind of warfare in which he was involved. He had been dodging his enemy for some time, and decided for the present, to abandon the idea of the conquest of Bengal. Besides he had lately received news of trouble at home. Therefore leaving behind two to three thousand Maratha horse, with six to seven thousand Afgans, all under Mir Habib, the Bhonsle marched to Nagpur.

1745-6 A.D. Reaching Nagpur, Rughuji found himself involved, in the conflicting affairs at Deogarh.[2] The history of the ruling house of Deogarh, had been influenced by the Maratha Raja, since the death of its ruler Chand Sultan. Mir Bahadur the late Chief's son, was ruling in Deogarh about 1738, when an uncle of his, named Wali Shah rebelled against him, and put the young chief to death, usurping the throne for himself. Wali Shah an arrogant man, refused to pay the chouth to the Marathas, and with the help of the Raja of Chanda a Hindu renegade named Nilkunth Shah, he defied the authority of Rughuji Bhonsle, to collect the Maratha dues. In the meantime the widow of Chand Sultan was plotting his overthrow. She called on Rughuji, to aid her to place one of her sons on the throne, offering a large reward for his assistance. Rughuji agreed, and led an army into the Gondwana, where Wali Shah's Diwan opposed him.

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1. Seir-Mutaqherin, II, p.14.
   Sarkar, Fall of the Mughal Empire, I, p.124. Banerji, Orissa, II, p.101.
   Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.227,
2. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.105.

The Gond army was defeated, and the Diwan taken prisoner. But negotiations being started, an agreement[1] ended by giving a fourth of the whole revenue to the Maratha Chief and an option, that if the money was not paid next year, the Raja was to ~~try~~ levy -- contributions in the country, at pleasure.

The following year, Wali Shah refused to conform to the terms of the agreement with the Marathas, and Rughuji this time captured Wali Shah and his son, and placed Chand Sultan's son Akbar Shah on the throne. For the Raja's services he received eleven lakhs of rupees, and districts on the Wyne Gunga. Rughuji left behind his agent at Nagpur, to collect his share of the - revenue, and returned home.[2]

1746 A.D. This time after his Bengal campaign, news was brought to him, that Akbar Shah had quarrelled with this brother Burhan Shah, and had asked the Nizam to help him. Burhan Shah and his partisans wrote to Rughuji for his help. Rughuji Bhonsle was annoyed, at these Civil Wars in the neighbourhood of his territory, and when one of the factions had called on the Nizam, to help, he determin--ed to put an end, once for all to such warfare, by attaching - Gondwana to his dominions. Acting on his decision, it was not difficult for Rughuji to carry out this conquest. Akbar Shah made fruitless attempts at opposition, but was forced to fly and take refuge in the territory of the Nizam, where he later died. Burhan Shah and his family were deprived of all power but were allotted Ruttunpur and some revenue for their subsistence.

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1. The Nagpur State in the 18th Century by Wills, p.227, 28.

2. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.106.

Rughuji shifted his own seat of government to Nagpur, which became henceforth the Capital of the Bhonsles. He surrounded the city with a wall. The date of the transfer of the Capital, given by Grant Duff and followed by Wills as 1745 is wrong, because Rughuji was in Bengal throughout that year, and only returned in 1746, which date Visaji Bhikaji's letter written in September 1746 to the - Peshwa, supports.[1] After Rughuji Bhonsle's return to Nagpur, the - affairs in Bengal had a spell ~~of~~ of peace, though the Maratha contingent, left under Mir Habib carried on depradations in Orissa and in its vicinity. The Nawab was constantly informed of their - wrong doings, but since he had been latterly, so busy campaigning against the Marathas, he longed for a long stretch of inactivity, for his tired and old frame. The Nawab's abstention from interfe- -rence encouraged Mir Habib, who often led his men more and more, into the Bengal territory.

1747 A.D. In the end, exhortations from his subject, owing to the increasing number of outrages, decided the Nawab to send a force against Mir Habib. The general Mir Jaffer was selected for the - purpose, who was despatched with 7000 horse and 12000 foot to Cuttack. The general was given the designation, of the Deputy - Governor of Orissa, under the Nawab's nephew Sayd Ahmed Khan.[2]

The force under Mir Habib had grown larger, because he had enlisted disaffected Afgans from Vardi's army. Even then, his force under Nur Mir, did not give a stubborn fight to Mir Jaffer, when that general attacked them, in Midnapur. The Marathas and -

1. Sardesai, Peshwa's Daftar, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles, L.38.
2. Seir-Mutaqherin, V.II, p.23-24.

Afgans fled to Jallasor, and were pursued by the Bengal army.[1] Mir Jaffer hesitated following them across the Kehnassa river, intimidated by reinforcement, which Mir Habib had received, from another part of Orissa. Later when the Bengal general learnt, that Janoji the son of Rughuji Bhonsle, was coming to Bengal to help Mir Habib, he took fright and decamped to Burdwan.

1746-47 A.D. Rughuji had decided sending Janoji to Bengal, after the Deshera festival in 1746, but the monetary difficulties under which he had suffered, had prevented him from doing so. But afterwards the ransom of Dulabram, and tribute of three and quarter lakhs from - Sayyad Sharif of Alipur[2] with the promise of Mir Habib of eleven lakhs[3] from Bengal and Orissa, enabled him to raise the necessary number of soldiers.

THE FIFTH MARATHA INCURSION - 1747 A.D.

Janoji was in Bengal by the month of March. When he found out that Mir Jaffer was retreating from fear of him, the young prince naturally went in fast pursuit of the Bengal general. However his labours were not well rewarded, as he only succeeded in capturing some elephants and baggage, from Mir Jaffer's rear.[4]

Though Mir Jaffer had failed to keep his master informed about his flight, Vardi came to know of his cowardly retreat, from other sources. He despatched Ata-ula-Khan with a force, to Mir Jaffer's

1. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughal Empire, V.I, p.135.
2. Sardesai, Peshwa's Daftar, The Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles, L.No.41
3. " " " " " " " " " L.No.46
4. Seir-mutaqherin, Vol.II, p.24.
   Sarkar, Fall of the Mughal Empire, V.I, p.136.

aid. Reinforcements reached the Bengal general in Burdwan.[1] The impetuous Janoji when he heard that the Nawab himself had not come, to help Mir Jaffer, decided to attack the enlarged Bengal army. The Battle which followed, gave no advantage to any of the parties, but infused some confidence into the hearts of the Bengal generals.

Ata-ula-Khan a vain and rash man, planned a rebellion against Ali Vardi in favour of Mir Jaffer. Fortunately for the Viceroy, the subordinates in the army, opposed such pretentions and treachery, which was soon nipped in the bud. The Nawab who had been coming also, to join Mir Jaffer was informed of the attempt to raise a rebellion. Like a wise ruler that he was, taking into consideration his - circumstances, he pardoned the traitors after severely reprimanding them for their treachery. He took severe measures to remove altoge--ther, any factors which would create further troubles in the - future.[2]

The united Bengal army, then under the leadership of the Nawab, marched against Janoji, who was in close proximity to them. The ensuing battle was a very fierce affair. The Bengal army attacked the Marathas with a ferocity and boldness, which shook the Maratha lines and broke them.[3] The Marathas lost heavily. Janoji felt confounded at the result. But not to give in easily, he decided to

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1. Seir-Mutaqherin, V.II,p.25.
2. " " V.II,p.25-28.
3. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughal Empire,V.I,p.137.
   Banerji,Orissa,V.II,p.102.
   Seir-Mutaqherin,V.II,p.28.

retrieve his losses by plunder, and so marched on Murshidabad. Vardi however would not allow Janoji to plunder his Capital. He kept a very close pursuit of the Maratha, which forced Janoji to abandon the idea, even though he had reached the neighbourhood of Murshidabad. The Maratha Prince went back to Midnapur, where he was followed by Ali Vardi. Later the nearness of the rains - stopped further hostility. The Nawab returned to his Capital. But he was faced here with another rebellion, this time under his - nephew and son-in-law Zin-eddin-Ahmed Khan. The rebel was aided by two Afgan Commanders Shumsher and Sardar Khan. The revolt did not last long under Ali Vardi's nephew, as that unfortunate prince was deceived and murdered by the Afgans. This place Vardi's position in his kingdom, again into a precarious state. The whole of - Azimabad was in the hands of Shumsher and Sardar Khan, who had - strengthened themselves, by enlisting more Afgans who had kept - behind, from Ahmed Shah Abdali's host. Mir Habib with Janoji[1] was - ravaging [illegible] and plundering round about Murshidabad.

The Nawab was thus forced to make supreme efforts. He raised enormous sums of money, enlarged his army and won it over to his cause. His force consisted of 14 to 15000 horse and 8000 foot. As soon as the season was over, he left behind Mir Jaffer with 4 to 5000 men in Murshidabad, and went out in quest of his enemy.[2] The Marathas kept close to Ali Vardi giving him trouble with their Guerilla warfare. But when they learnt, that he was marching against

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1. Seir-Mutaqherin, V.II, p.44-48.
   Sarkar, Fall of the Mughal Empire, V.I, p.143-46.
   Banerji, Orissa, V.II, p.103.

2. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughal Empire, V.I, p.145.

the Afghans , they left his presincts to go to the aid of the - Afghans. They took to the mountains on the left of the Bengal -- Army, and so marched under cover.[1]

Ali Vardi on his march, had tarried a few days at -- Monghyr to rest his men, when news was brought to him, that the Afghans had left Azimabad and had encamped at the town of Bar. The Nawab at once marched on that town. Mir Habib to help the Afghans, came out of the hills and attacked the baggage of the Bengal army, succeeding in taking away some booty before retiring. When the marathas came near the Afghans, their commanders paid a visit to Janoji.

Vardi on his way to the town of Bar, had taken route -- along the shore of the Ganges. At Bar he found the Afghans ------ encamped on the other side of a small river, whose shore they had guarded, by numerous and heavy artillery. Avoiding the Afghans' -- strong position, Ali Vardi with the help of knowledge gained from a native Zemindar, passed westward about two miles. The Nawab affected the crossing of the river in darkness, and in absolute -- secrecy from the Afghans.

In the noon of the next day, Ali Vardi surprised the -- Afghans by his nearness. The approach of the enemy made the ----- Afghans decapitate, leaving behind their entire artillery. Though chance had given the Nawab this advantage, he kept his men in readiness and order, fearing an early attack from the Afghans to retrieve

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1. Seir Mutaqherin, Vol.II, p.50-51.

their loss.[1] When by the next morning, the Afghans had not -- sought a battle, the Nawab drew up his army in a formation of an - attack. He was taking a ~~very~~ chance against grave odds, but he - could rely on his amazing luck and sound ability as a general, to win him to victory.

April 1748. The Afghans who opposed ~~them~~ him numbered 30000 men and ~~xikl~~ with these they had to help them, stray bands of soldiers not ---- attached to the army. Their ally the marathas must have numbered over 15000 men. The battle on the field of Rani Sarai[2] 8 miles - west of Bar, began adversely for the Bengal army. The marathas -- with their endless skirmishing had caused great damage. All --- around, the Bengal army was hard pressed, but still the fortitude and steady purpose of the veteran commander, would not be deterred. He marched on slowly and steadily though he lost many men. However fortune favoured the usually lucky Nawab. A chance ball from a - cannon, sheared off the head, of the more renowned of the Afghan - Commander; Sardar Khan. The loss of their leader, made his troops give way, and panic settled amongst them.[3] They mixed with other orderly bodies, and shook their fighting purpose as well. This - disorder and general aim of plight, in a body which was more or less half of the Afghan ~~fxii~~ force, made matters beyond the control of the other commanders. Taking advantage of such confusion, -- Ali Vardi ordered a general charge. The Nawab's main body obeyed with extreme alacrity, and a strong desire for revenge because of

1. Seir Mutaqherin, Vol.II, p.52-53.
2. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughal Empire, Vol.I, p.149.
3. Banerji, Orissa, Vol.II, p.104.

their sufferings in the early stages of the battle. The battle soon ended in a rout for the Afghans, who were flying in all -- directions.[1]

In the meanwhile the Bengal left had suffered the -- most, and was on the verge of extinction from the maratha ---- charges. But the loss of the Afghans and their flight, made the marathas also doubtful of their own ability to cope with the -- Nawab, and considered it wise to retreat.

April 1748 A.D. Giving two days rest to his army after such a ---- gruelling battle, the Nawab entered Azimabad in all pomp. Janoji who had moved away from Azimabad, decided to make another ----- attempt to plunder Murshidabad. But this time the chance death of his mother in Nagpur, forced him to give up the project and - hasten to the maratha capital.[2] Mir Habib was left in charge of an army of marathas and Afghans.

The Nawab was thus more or less master of his ---- provinces, though Mir Habib his implacable enemy, kept up the -- predatory raids, with the contingent under his charge. Ali --- Vardi was too tired to move against him his whole force, because the constant campaigning was wearing him out. Besides Mir -- Habib with his small army was very elusive, and could not be -- brought to an encounter.

Under these conditions the days rolled by till the

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1. Seir Mutaqherin, Vol.II, p.54-56.
2. Banerji, Orissa, Vol.II, p.104.
   Seir Mutaqherin, Vol.II, p.76-77.

maratha menace took on again a threatening aspect. Rughuji had not completely abandoned his designs on Bengal. As soon as -- Janoji was in Nagpur, he ordered out his other son Bimbaji, with a strong body of maratha horse, to proceed to Bengal.[1]

THE 6TH AND THE LAST MARATHA INCURSION OF BENGAL @ 1748 A.D.

Bimbaji must have reached Bengal by the month of -- August or September, because we read that the marathas were --- causing a great anxiety to Ali Vardi, in the second half of this year.

Just before the end of the rains, Ali Vardi encamped at Cutwa to assemble his troops. He had sent out Bahdyr Ali -- Khan, the commander of his light artillery, to Burdwan with 8000 horse and foot to check the further depredations of the ------ marathas. It did not take the Viceroy long to assemble a fair - size army. ~~With it~~ Ready with his army he marched on Burdwan, where his commander joined him. A few days after the Commander Bahdyr Ali was despatched again, this time to Midnapore.

The commander's detachment however later mutinied for arrears of pay. The soldiers would not listen to compromise and the Nawab was forced to disband them, thus weakening his force. His artillery which was the part of the same detachment, had also to be broken up, leaving the Nawab devoid of his cannons.[2]

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1. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughal Empire. Vol.I, p.154. Seir Mutaqherin, Vol.II, p.77.
2. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughal Empire, Vol.I, p.155.

1749 A.D. When Ali Vardi reached Midnapur, he saw that Mir Habib had set fire to his barracks, and had retreated. He - passed the river Cassey without entering Midnapur. THE Nawab then sent out spies to get information of the enemy. The -- spies brought him the news, that the enemy had camped in a - woody tract, on the other side of Midnapur. The Nawab ordered Mir Cazem Khan and Dost Mahomed Khan two of his officers, to - pursue the marathas.

The commanders marched towards the marathas during the night, and came on them by day-break. They fell upon the - enemy sabre in hand.[1] Both sides fought valiantly, until the heavy Mughal soldiery, forced the lighter marahhas to retire; the army of the marathas went back towards Cuttack.

Ali Vardi joined his officers and congratulated -- them. The united army then followed the marathas but could - not catch them up. The Nawab having lost sight of his enemy, ordered his army to rest, when he reached Balasor Bunder. - Information was brought to him here, that the marathas had -- retreated further into the woody tracts of Orissa.

After some time of inactivity Ali Vardi moved --- against the marathas. He advanced beyond Badrac and Hadjipur.[2] He pitched his camp at Barabuty on the 17th May 1749 and --- reached Cuttack by forced marches on the 18th May. Still ---

1. Seir Mutaqherin, Vol.II, p.79.
2. " " Vol.II, p.80.

finding no trace of the marathas, he turned back in disgust, -- leaving behind ~~the~~ a force to guard the valley which gave entrance into the woods.[1]

On his way back the Nawab took the fortress of --- Barabuty.[2]

The ~~wst~~ town of Cuttack and the fortress of Barabuty, were built on an island, surrounded by thewaters of Mahahudy and those of the Cata Jouri. The parts washed by the rivers, were -- protected by strong walls from inundations. The fortress was on the side of the Mahanudy, and was about 3 cos in circuit. It was built of stone-brick and mortar, and artisticallyraised. A broad ditch faced with stone, surrounded the whole fort.

The city stretched on the lesser river Cata Jouri, to about 2 cos from the citadel. The whole body of the ~~wstn~~ town and fort, was in a strongly defensive position.

Ali Vardi left ~~the~~ a commander in Cuttack, and marched howewards because the rain had started pouring, and his progress was becoming slow and difficult. At this time the marathas force was again in charge of Mir Habib, because Bimbaji had returned[3] -- to Nagpur. When Mir Habib learnt, that Ali Vardi had gone back to Murshidabad, he came out of the hills and fell on Cuttack.

1. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughal Empire, Vol. I. p.156. Banerji, Orissa, Vol. II, p.105
2. Seir Mutaqherin, Vol. II, p.82.
3. Seir Mutaqherin, Vol. II, p.83-84.

The fort was taken though the gallant commander did his utmost to stop him, and was eventually taken a prisoner. The Nawab was indignant at the reverse suffered by his men. He was at Balasor, but could not come back to Cuttack, because of the heavy rains.

With the end of the rains, hostilities commenced. The Nawab came down from his capital to Cutwa, Burdwan and then Midnapur. Mir Habib went back to the hills, and then to Balasor Bunder, where he was pursued by Siraz-ud-daulah, and later by the Nawab. Mir Habib evaded the Bangel army and hastened to ---- Murshidabad.[1]

The Nawab was again forced to hurry to the aid of his capital. But Mir Habib on his way to the capital, had entered the hills on the west of Murshidabad and gone back to Midnapur after a few adventures. The Nawab left his grandson in ------ Murshidabad and made his way to Midnapur.[2]

1750 A.D. In charge of Murshidabad, the younf prihce Siraz-ud-daulah lost his mental balance, and rebelled. But happily for the Nawab, this episode was quickly and satisfactorily put to an end. Still Ali Vardi's vanity and affection had received a rude shock, and coupled with the rigours of frequent campaigns against the marathas, his worn out old body gave way. He had a serious physical break-down, from which he recovered only, ---- because of ready and good attendance, with sound and correct -- treatment for his ailments. He was brought to the capital ---

1. Seir Mutaqherin, Vol.II, p.90-91.
2. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughal Empire, Vol.I, p.161.

whilst Mirjaffer and Dulabram took charge of the army at --- Midnapur.[1] These commanders however, had earned such a bad - name for themselves as generals, that even though in sufficient strength to oust the marathas from Bengal, they were able to - achieve nothing against them.

In the meanwhile Mir Habib had come to know through his spies, that Ali Vardi was sick and the government with the - army was not in capable hands. He therefore made ready, to --- carry out plans of an overwhelming attack on the Bengal army.

The Nawab though on his sick bed, had kept himself informed about his army. When he learnt that Mir Habib was --- preparing to attack his inefficient generals, he made a huge effort against his failing physical powers, and though still in a convalscent state, joined his generals at Midnapur.

December 1750 A.D. Mir Habib ignorant of the old Nawab's presence in the Bengal army, moved to Midnapur to attack. Ali Vardi took the initiative out of his hands, and attacked himself unexpectedly the marathas. The sudden move won for the Bengal army a -- victory. The marathas in the usual manner retreated fast, into the hills of Orissa, and were soon out of the sight of the --- pursuing Nawab. Ali Vardi was thus forced to go back towards - his capital.[2]

The last reverse and constant clamouring for the --

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1. Seir Mutaqherin, Vol.II, p.109-110.
   Sarkar, Fall of the Mughal Empire, Vol.I, p.162-163.
2. Seir Mutaqherin, Vol.II, p.110-111.

arrears of their pay, by the soldiers in the maratha army, made Mir Habib and his ~~ke~~ generals meet at consultations. The result of their meeting may have revealed to them, that the maratha -- army had regularly failed to achieve their main purpose of --- conquering Bengal, and had also failed to secure wealth, which was always the intention of the maratha incursions, into any foreign territory. At present the army was much in arrears of pay, and Raja Rughuji was in great financial difficulty, so if the Bengal Nawab agreed to some monetary settlement, of many of their difficulties would be solved.[1]

According to the "Seir" Mir Habib sent an envoy -- to Mirjaffer, to convey the wish of a reconciliation on certain ~~tws~~ terms. When Ali Vardi was informed of the terms received - for an agreement, he resented the attitude of the vanquished --- marathas, to press for such demands. But afterwards when he -- considered the necessity of his circumstances, and his failing health owing to old age, he thought it wise, to come to a definite understanding with the marathas.[2]

Negotiations were carried on for some time, till the month of May or June 1751 when final terms were ratified by Mir Habib, sending a sealed treaty to the Nawab. The terms of the treaty entered into with Mir Habib as the Diwan of the ---- -maratha Raja Rughuji in charge of his forces in Orissa, were as follows.

I. "That Mir Habib deemed henceforward to be in service

1. Sarkar-Fall of the Mughal Empire, Vol.I, p.164-165.
2. Seir Mutaqherin, Vol.II, p.112-113.

of the majestuous in battles, should,be invested by him with the honourable office of Deputy to His Highness in the Nizamat of the military government of the province of Orissa.

II. "That as Deputy Governor he should receive orders to appropriate the revenues of that province, to the payment of - the arrears due to Raghoji Bhonsleh's troops.

III. "That over and above that assignment the sum of twelve lakhs of rupees should be paid to Raghoji's Agents --- yearly under condition that the marathas would never set their foot again within the dominions of His Highness. Lastly that the mutusuddies and the accomptant-office of Bengal would pay yearly the above sum.

IV. "That the river Sonamakhia which runs by Ballisar Bunder should henceforward be reputed to be the wall and ----- boundary betwixt the two dominions and that the maratha armies - would never offer to cross it or to put a foot in its water."[1].

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1. Seir Mutaqherin, Vol.II, p.113.

THE PERIOD OF LITTLE ACTIVITIES.

FROM 1746-1748 A.D.

After Rughuji Bhonsle's conquest of Gondwana from Akbarshah of Nagpur,and his making that city his capital, we get very few facts about his activities,till the end of the year 1748 - A few letters from Mr.Sardesai's collection from the Peshwa's Dafter,gives an insufficient and disconnected report of what he was doing.

The first important letter was written by one Visaji Bhikaji,a man in the service of the Peshwa,to his master in the month of October 1746. He wrote that Rughuji was at Asti Amner which he intended beseiging. For the present he had only a - thousand soldiers, but in a couple of days other detachments would join him. About 8000 to 10000 soldiers were expected from Berar. That Rughuji had planned to send his son Janoji to Bengal,after the Dasserah festival and himself to go to Berar. A few days back an ambassador from Bundelkhand had come to - Rughuji asking for his help. Rughuji had refused,even though he was offered 12 lakhs on the spot, and 12 lakhs after aid was rendered. The Raja pointed out that the matter was within the Peshwa's jurisdiction and so he could not interfere. He offered to give the ambassador a note to the Peshwa if he wanted it. The ambassador expressed his desire, to go to Nizam-ul-Mulk if no help were forthcoming from Rughuji, but he -----

was still still in the Bhonsle camp.[1]

The next letter by the same person Visaji Bhikaji to the Peshwa written on the 5th November 1746 says that " at -- present the camp of Rughuji was at Thugaon (Berar). He was there with his various sardars and armies big and small. Janoji had - not yet come. Sayyed Shariff of Alajpur met Rughuji and has -- given three lacs and a quarter ruppes as tribute to Rughuji who promised not to interfere in his Saranjam."[2]

The author giving news about Muxadabad(Murshidabad) in the same letter writes that an agreement between Mir Habib -- and Raghuji had been concluded for a sum of eleven lacs of --- rupees to be paid by Mir Habib to Rughuji in exchange for ---- Rughuji's help in Bengal. Those eleven lacs were to be paid as follows:- Mir Habib should send promissory notes for rupees -- six lacs and the rest to be given in cash. The army was to be - sent in the month of Kartak.

By the end of November 1746 Visaji wrote another -- letter to the Peshwa about Rughuji's movements. The letter --- informed that Rughuji had camped at Risbad near Magberi in the district of Sirpur. He had given out that he would collect --- ghasdana from Varghat,Sirpur,Mehkar,Lonar and other sundry mahals

1. Sardesai, Peshwa's Dafter,Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsle, Letter No.40.(~~a free translation~~).
2. Sardesai,Peshwa's Dafter,Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsle, Letter No.41.(a free translation).

and go to the north, but there was no sign of his having such an intention nor does he speak about it to any of his Sardars. Rayaji Bhonsle (Kanhoji's son) had left for Bham since no -- reconciliation seemed possible between him and Rughuji. Baburao Konher and Kashi Bhaskar (son of Bhaskar Punt) were still at - Patur and in a state of hostility against the Bhonsle.The state of the territories according to the letter was troubled and - unsettled.[1]

1746 A.D. Visaji Bhikaji writing on the 8th December to the Peshwa reports that Rughuji had determined on sending Janoji Bhonsle - with other officers to Bengal. He had not yet gathered a suffi- -cient army for the purpose,but many of his Sardars, each with a varying number from 100 to 500 soldiers under them, promise to raise an army of 10000 men if Rughuji gave them some money before they left for Bengal and promised to send the rest afterwards.[2]

On the 29th December 1746 Visaji informed the Peshwa that Rughuji was harassed by his creditors, many of whom had approached him through agents whilst some had made demands -- personally. The Raja however gave heed to none,and tried to -- avoid them. Vishwanath Bhut was the only person who had settled -his accounts with Rughuji. The writer giving further details wrote that indemnity was asked from Jankiram for the release of his son (Dulabram) who had been brought to Nagpur after his - capture in Bengal. Rughuji had settled on the sum as three lakhs of which, he was to receive 60000 whilst 65000 Rs.were to go to Viswanath Bhut. Ornaments with dresses worth 25000 Rs.had -- already been received by the Raja.[3]

1747 A.D. After the above information,an interval of nearly six months elapse before we get another news-letter ----------

1.Sardesai,Peshwa's Dafter,Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles,L.No.42.
2.Ibid,L.No.44. 3.Ibid,L.No.46.

written from Satara to Sadashiv Rao Bhau. In it is mentioned that Fateh Singh Bhonsle and Rughuji Bhonsle were given leave to depart. This makes us conclude that Rughuji must have been paying a visit to Satara.[1]

Feby.,1748 A.D. There is another gap of nine months after which we learn from Shivram Narayan writing in February 1748 to Sadasheo Rao Bhau that he had left Rughuji at Deulgaon and joined the Peshwa at Jamb.[2]

Octr.1748 A.D. Seven months intervene before any further news comes to us. It was Viswanath Bhut writing to the Peshwa states that Rughuji had left Nagpur to visit the Raja at Satara.[3]

About this time the affairs in Hyderabad were in a turmoil. The famous Nizam-ul-Mulk had died on the 19th June 1748 at the - ripe old age of 104 years. His son Nasir Jung who had succeeded him, had been called to the north by the Emperor. When on his way, near the Nurbudda alarming news was brought to him. His nephew Muzuffir Jung had rebelled with the help of Chanda Sahib, and some French - troops. A short time afterwards he learnt that Anwar-ud-din the - Governor of Carnatic Payin Ghat, was defeated and killed at the - battle of Ambur by the rebels. Nasir Jung had not a sufficiently - big army, to cope with the rebels and consequently he called on his dependents and tributaries to help him. He wrote also to Raja - Rughuji, asking him to send a contingent, for which he promised to cede some territories. Rughuji Bhonsle complied with the request,

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1. Sardesai, Peshwas Dafter, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles, L.No.48.
2. " " " " " " " " L.No.50.
3. " " " " " " " " L.No.51.
   Vad & Parasnis, Letters of Balaji Baji Rao, Letter No.182.

by sending 10000 horse under his son Janoji, who had just - returned from Bengal.

1749. A.D. The Peshwa Balaji was longing to interfere in the - unsettled state of the Deccan. He could have easily helped Nasir Jung and derived great benefit from it, but sudden change of - events at home, left him no other course, but a concentration of his mind and might, to matters urgently personal.

Raja Shahu had been in a mentally imbecile state for some time now, and his body already broken, failed him. He died in 1750 leaving behind no heir, which soon made his capital a field for strife to the different parties, which contested for future power in the name of their protege, to the throne of Satara.[1]

The Peshwa Balaji who had secured from the dying Shahu an authority to manage the government for the descendants of - Shivaji, took possession of the Capital. He could have easily - usurped the power of the ruler for himself. But he contented himself, by being the man behind the throne, in whom rested destiny of the Maratha nation.

To acquire that complete control behind the throne, the Peshwa had first to dispose of, the rival claimants to the very same power. His most dangerous enemy could have been his past opponent to power, Raja Rughuji Bhonsle. But of late, that chief had shown a marked change of attitude, towards the Peshwa.[2] His old age and experience, made him adopt a peaceful and safe policy. All his deeds had shown to the Peshwa, that whatever Rughuji had

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1. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, V.I, p.435-440.

2. Sardesai, Letters about Ramraja's struggle for power. L.No.23,41

recently professed in his letters to him, about his goodwill was true. Rughuji was at this time busy over the marriage of his son Janoji. The date for the wedding day according to Mr.Sardesai was fixed on 2nd May 1750.[1]

Raja Rughuji had been extremely disappointed, when Shahu abandoned the idea, of adopting his son Mudhoji for future ------ succession to the Satara Gadi.[2] He showed a deep aversion to any other claimant, except a true descendant of ~~Shiraz~~ Shivaji. He -- even doubted Tarabai's story of the posthumus son of Shivaji II. Because when Tarabai demanded the investiture of her grandson to the Satara Gadi, according to the dying wish of Raja Shahu, Rughuji Bhonsle demanded, that the old queen must satisfy him, that Raja Ram was the true son of Shivaji II, before he could be fully installed to the Musnud. Tarabai was forced to perform, certain ceremonial rites and take oaths, to prove the legitimacy of her grandson.

The Bhonsle being thus appeased, did not raise further -- objections. The Peshwa after a bit of political manovouring, ---- placed Raja Ram on the throne and at the same time established a complete control over the maratha nation.

1750 A.D. Throughout this troublesome period, Rughuji had stood a - staunch ally of the Peshwa.[3] Balaji was quite grateful, and showed his appreciation, by granting fresh sunnuds for Berar, Gondwana and Bengal and some jagir lands, which had belonged to the Pratinidhi in the Berar province.

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1. Sardesai, Letters about Ram Raja's struggle for power, Letter Nos.19 & 20.
2. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, Vol.I, p.441. Wills, Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.14.
3. Sardesai, Letters about Ram Raja's struggle for power, Letter No.132. Grant Duff, History of the [illegible]

On his return to Nagpur, Rughuji found that Janoji had come back from the south, when Nasir Jung began to fail in his purpose against his brother.[1]

1751 A.D. Some time next year Rughuji became complete master of the fort of Chanda. - The Rajas of Chanda like those of -- Deogarh were Gonds, and had paid a peshkush to the Mughals. -- When the maratha claims were established, Raja Rughuji levied the maratha dues. Raja Nilkanth Shah of Chanda, who had always shown marked hostility towards Rughuji, refused to pay the dues about 1748-49. Rughuji Bhonsle had not long to wait, to ----- satisfy his demands. He learnt of some dissensions at Chanda, and went there to interfere. He was however forced to lay seige - to the fort, which shortly after owing to the treachery of the - Diwan, fell in his hands. The Raja however, did not abandon the struggle against the maratha, till after a few months, when a treaty was concluded and the revenue partitioned.[2]

From the revenue of Rs.110/-.

Rughuji Bhonsle got as Sardeshmukhi.	Rs.10-0-0	Nilkanth Shah received -
" " " as Chouth.	Rs.25-0-0	Saunssthanik.
Brother's share..	37-8-0	Rs. 37-8-0
	Rs.72-8-0.	Rs. 37-8-0.

Two years after the above settlement had been agreed to, there unsued another conflict at Chanda, which forced ----- Rughuji to attach the territory finally to his dominions, and - give the Raja a pension.

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1. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, Vol. I, p.450.
2. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories. p.107.

CHHUTTEESGARH. 1737-1745.

The history of Chhutteesgarh however, is the history of the ancient ruling House of Ruttunpur. The Rajas of Ruttunpur, were the descendants of the original family of the Ashwaputtees, - who changed their name later to that of Hyhywancee. The last -- independent ruler of this House was Ragonath Sing. Probably the first maratha incursion into Chhutteesgarh, came under Bhasker -- Pant, when that maratha general was on his way notthwards in 1737. He stormed Ruttunpur, and compelled Ragonath Sing to accede to the payment of a tribute. He left his agent Kulian Geer to collect - the money, before he moved from Ruttunpur. Seven years afterwards when Bhaskar Pant was killed in Bengal, Ragonath Sing seized ---- Kullian Geer and threw off the maratha yoke.

Ragonath Sing's enjoyment of freedom was short lived. Rughuji Bhonsle came to Chhutteesgarh with an army, the very next year in 1745 and deposed Ragonath Sing assigning him five villages for his support. Mohun Sing an officer under Rughuji, was left -- in charge of the province. He subdued the whole of Chhutteesgarh and exacted tribute from Sumbulpur, and other surrounding ----- zemindaries.[1]

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1. P.Vans Agnew, Report on Chhutteesgarh, p.1-8.

RUGHUJI'S FURTHER CONQUESTS.

1751-52 A.D. The year following his return from Poona in 1750, Raja Rughuji was busy annexing a great part of foreign ----- territory to his own. After he had seized Chanda, he learnt - that the Peshwa was at war with the Nizam. This gave him an opportunity to take advantage of the ~~ENNE~~ confusion in the -- Deccan, to accomplish his cherished desires. He made surprise attacks on the forts of Gawilgarh, Nurnalla and Manikdurg. Each one of these, surrendered to him without great resistance. He occupied districts attached to these forts, and whilst ---- Sulabat jung was on his way to Poona he laid most of the country - between the Painganga and Godavary under his exactions. He - removed the Mughal thanas and substituted his own instead.[1]

The war with the Nizam concluding with a peace - treaty, Sulabat Jung demanded of the Peshwa, that Rughuji ---- Bhonsle must withdraw all his garrisons beyond the Painganga The Bhonsle could not refuse the Peshwa's orders, and so called in his men from the Nizam's territory. However Rughuji did not lose much, by abandoning these thanas. He kept the famous fort of Gawilgarh with those of Nurnalla and Manikdurg.[2]

From the end of 1752 to the year of his death in

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1. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, Vol. I, p. 457.
2. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p. 108.
   Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, Vol. I, p. 457.
   Wills, Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p. 16.

1755, which year we have to adopt as the correct date of his - death, in contradiction to 1753 given by Grant Duff, we find that the historical records, give us no information of what - Rughuji was doing during this period. Probably he was busy at home preparing for his end.

Raja Rughuji died on the 14th February 1755[1] from an attack of dysentery. He must have been about 57 years old -- then. At the time of his death the Bhonsle was at the zenith of his prosperity. He extended his sway, over a great tract of land in Central India.

He claimed an exclusive right of revenue over :-

1. The Raj Gond states of Deogarh and Chanda with their dependencies.

2. The former Rajput States of Kuttunpur and Raipur and dependencies.

3. The Rajput State of Sambalpur and dependencies.

4. The Mughal province of Orissa and dependencies.

His revenue was augmented by his claim, of 12 lakhs of rupees as chouth from Bengal and Bihar - His share of revenue from the curious Do-Amli system of rule in Berar, and from the - fortresses of Gawilgarh, Nurnalla and Manikdurg with their --- dependencies.[2]

Rughuji Bhonsle was known by the English and Muslim authors, as the ruler of Berar. This title as Wills mentions was -

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.108.
   Sardesai, Peshwa's Daftar, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles, L.Nos. 79-80.

2. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, pp.19-20.

a misnomer. Curiously enough,[1] Rughuji was never a complete ruler of Berar. He shared the government with the Nizam, in fact most of the executive duties were carried on by the --- mughal officials. Raja Rughuji became in a few years, an --- absolutely independent and full fledged ruler of territories far extensive than Berar. Having made Nagpur his capital, his concentration was centred more on the newly acquired lands, -- over which he was the real master by right of conquest. - Consequently by the time he died, he was really the ruler of - Nagpur than of Berar.

1755 A.D. The English writers particularly may have -- acquired this practise of calling Rughuji, Raja of Berar from the marahti correspondence with Poona, which must have referred to Rughuji, as the feudatory of Raja Shahu in Berar. Having failed to keep an upto date knowledge of Raghuji's growth, as an independant ruler at Nagpur the Englishmen could not have charged their order of recognising him, until at was too late. The old title was more emphatically given current use when - Clive and following him Hastings, employed the same designation in their official despatches to England. Even Rennell the - famous geographer makes the same mistake.

Raja Rughuji left behind four sons - Janoji, Mudhoji, Bimbaji and Sabaji. Mudhoji and Bimbaji were the - sone of Sulabai Mohite the first wife whilst Janoji and Sabaji

1. Berar or (Warhar as it is written and pronounced in marathi) originally signified the tract on the banks of the Wardha - river. Lyall's "Gazetteer of Berar" p.126.
2. A Sketch of the History of the Bhonsle family (1811) p.2

were born to other wives. Janoji was the eldest son, and so was allotted the musnud. Mudhoji was supposed to get Chanda and its districts. Ruttunpur and dependencies was the share of Bimbaji. Sabaji had received the Darwha districts, as -- jagir from the Nizam when Rughuji was alive, and it was ----- confirmed on him.[1]

1.Wills,MM Nagpur State in the 18th Century,Appendix C,p.229

CHAPTER V.

JANOJI.

1755 A.D. Janoji succeeded his father in the month of February. A month after, he was forced to subjugate his -- brother Mudhoji who might have been instigated by the Peshwa Balaji, to oppose his brother's claim. About Janoji's campaign against his brother we know very little. Two letters from -- the Peshwa's Dafter, written by one Gangaji Gopal to Sadashiv Bhaoo in 1756, mention that Janoji was moving to the attack of Chandrapur.[1] The dates of these letters as Mr.Sardesai says are questionable.

It must be shortly after subjugating his brother, that Janoji must have joined the Peshwa with 10000 soldiers, - when Balaji was moving south against the Nawab of Savanoor.[2] We do not know as to how long Janoji was with the Peshwa; -- probably till the Nawab of Savanoor was forced to come to terms in May 1756.

1756 A.D. The next that we know of Janoji, was his visit to Poona, because the Peshwa had returned from the south. Janoji had gone to Poona, to be formally created the new Sena Sahib -- Subah, enjoying all his father's powers.[3] He was accompanied -

1. Sardesai, Peshwa's Dafter, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsle, Letter No.83-84
2. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, Vol.I, p.472.
3. Wills, Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.22.
   Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, Vol.I, p.472-473.

by his brother Bimbaji. When in Poona, this young prince -- joined the party of Tarabai, and married into the Mohite --- family, thus strengthening further the relationship between the two Bhonsle Houses.

1756-57 A.D. Being invested with the complete powers, that his father had enjoyed just before he died, Janoji agreed to the terms subscribed by Rughuji in the years 1734 and 1743. Janoji's powers included the treaty rights enjoyed by his father, when Ali Vardi Khan of Bengal made his peace with the marathas in 1751.[1]

His affairs in Poona satisfactorily settled,- Janoji returned towards his capital. He had been forced to bring back his brother Bimbaji with him, as that prince was exciting trouble in Poona, owing to his new family --- connection with the Mohite.

On his way to Nagpur Raja Janoji collected his dues on maratha as well as mughal soil. This made Salabat Jung indignant. Janoji in retaliation to the Nizam's ---- attitude, began plundering Hyderabad districts, over which he had no right. But the Raja was not permitted, to carry on his depradations for long. A mughal force was sent against him, which caused some damage[2] in the maratha ranks, and captured the Raja's Diwan. Further hostilities were however stopped,

1.Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, Vol.1, p.474
2.Sardesai, Peshwa's Dafter, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsle. Letter No.82.

when Janoji agreed to give up much of what he had plundered, and retired to Nagpur.[1]

Janoji was at this period of an age, when a born soldier longs to acquire more power and territory for himself. His last reverse against Salabat, might have been rankling in - his mind and to make up for what he had lost, he readily ------ accepted the invitation, of Jaffer Ali Khan the dispossessed -- Subahdar of Siccacole and Rajamundree, to invade those districts. It did not take long for Janoji to plunder and lay waste lands, which were not well defended. However when an army was sent - against him, he discreetly sent away, all the booty he had --- gathered with a detachment, and himself stayed behind to ensure its safe passage. He had a partial engagement with the troops of Vijyaram Raje, the zemindar who had rented Siccacole -- and Rajamundree from Mons. Bussy. . Finding his presence --- useless in such a remote place from his capital, Janoji returned to Nagpur.[2]

In the meanwhile domestic affairs of the ---- Hyderabad politics, were taking on an important aspect. The -- youngest of the late Nizam's sons, was the cause of all the -- trouble. By the month of May 1757, he was flying from Daulatabad having contrived at the murder of the Diwan of Mons. Bussy, the -- masterful french personality at the court of Hyderabad. Reaching

1. Wills, Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.23.
2. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, Vol.I, p.474.

Burhanpur, Nizam Ali laid a heavy contribution from that town, and with the money raised a large body of troops. Shortly -- after, the famous Ibrahim Khan Gardi joined him. Finding -- himself quite ready for any eventuality, Nizam Ali moved south ward. Having crossed about a hundred miles, he camped at the - town of Basum.

Besalut Jung who was then the Prime Minister at -- Hyderabad, instigated Raja Janoji Bhonsle, to intercept his --- brother's march to Hyderabad, promising to pay a suitable -- reward for the help. Janoji Bhonsle was quite ready for any - profitable enterprise. He detached Bapu Kurande with an army to check the progress of Nizam Ali's march southward.[2] According to Grant Duff Kurande stopped and captured, Nizam Ali's whole - artillery force, which was coming down from Burhanpur to join him at Basum. Nizam Ali was furious at the capture of his -- artillery, and so he came on Akola and plundered it. He --- advanced further, to destroy and gather booty from more maratha towns, but he was repulsed by a strong force, with which Janoji had come to help Kurande. Nizam Ali finding, that he could -- achieve nothing against Janoji without his artillery, he ----- retreated to Burhanpur.

In Burhanpur, Nizam Ali rapidly fitted out another park of artillery for Ibrahim Khan Gardi. Thus strengthening

1. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, Vol.I, p.486-490.
2. " " " " " " p.502.

his army he went in the quest of Janoji. Having found the -- Bhonsle, Nizam Ali inflicted on him a severe defeat, which forced Janoji to seek his alliance. An agreement was completed, which definitely marked out the Nagpur Raja's claims, on the Berar -- districts.[1]

5th Dec.1757. The maratha version of the same war reads ----- different - A letter from the marathi correspondence describing Kurande's battle with Ibrahim Khan Gardi reports that Kurande fought the men of Ibrahim Khan Gardi at Jalgaon Jambad. The - mughal artillery was blown up, many officers and men were --- killed, some few of whom were very wellknown amongst the ---- mughals. This reverse had caused the Mughals to retreat to - Burhanpur and on their way they were plundering villages which they past by .

Further account of the war is obtained, from a ---- letter written by Raja Janoji himself to the Peshwa. In it he - mentions that his forces were at Dahihanda on the flanks of the mughals, who had come from Akola having returned from the vicinity of Nagpur where they had gone from Burhanpur. The --- mughals made a surprise attack on the batches of Piraji Naik - Nimbalkar and Padrudji. They had come with 2000 to 3000 men - but finding that the Marathas were quite ready for them they only -----

1. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, Vol.I, p.503.
2. Sardesai, Peshwa's Dafter, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles, Letter No.93

bombarded from a distance. The next day towards Chadoli both armies met ~~wi~~ in a rough skirmish which resulted in the loss of some lives on both sides." Narating further the Raja wrote, that "Berar was completely ravaged, and about a lakh of men -- from both sides including the camp followers had gathered --- there. There was scarcity of foodstuff, and the people of the district were having a great difficulty, to make a living."[1] Mentioning about his brothers, the Raja related that Mudhoji and Bimbaji were also ravaging his territories, and they had granted sunnuds in the territory towards the Ganges. Bimbaji had even robbed his revenue collections, which had been sent - from Orissa. In conclusion the Raja asked the Peshwa to -- advise him on his difficulties.

The above letter makes us conclude that Nizam Ali after Ibrahim Khan's reverse must have hastily raised a park of artillery ~~after~~ when he retreated to Burhanpur and then gone in search of Janoji. Also that he did not inflict a crushing -- defeat on Janoji which made him seek peace. Raja Janoji -- made his peace with Nizam Ali, because of other reasons which he gave in his letter to Sadashiv Rao Bhau. "I am making the treaty with Nizam Ali as per your wish. We have nothing to - do with the activities of the Nizam beyond the river Wardha. But what is to be done with 20000 soldiers ? If they are sent to Bengal at least five to seven lakhs are necessary. You --

1. Sardesai, Peshwa's Dafter, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsle, Letter No.86.

say that money should be gathered from the territory on the banks of the Godavari. Granting that it would be possible to collect three lakhs, but how was the expense of the army to be met with. You also state that the Nizam's territory should not be molested. How was the Government revenue to be collected - and sent? I am at a loss to know what to do. I shall do as you would direct. I have carried on affairs some how, until now. If I do as I please you will lose confidence in me. My army is big and Berar is bankrupt. Bengal does not seem to bring money apart from the expenses of the army. It is for you to support the Sardars like us and give them the due and fit advice."[1]

Nizam Ali reconciled with Janoji, made his way rapidly to Hyderabad and threatened the Nizam's Capital. The Nizam - Salabut Jung, was not in a position to oppose his brother with a strong force. He agreed to listen to terms. Nizam Ali thus - got himself created his Diwan, in place of Basalut Jung.

1759- 60. A.D. A few months after Nizam Ali was made the Diwan, the Mughals were involved in a War with the Marathas, for their - capture of the famous Ahmednagar fort. It was a matter of pres- -tige and past glory, which made them launch on a war, though - their means were not suitable for such an enterprise. The Muslim army lost disastrously at Udgir, and they were forced into a humiliating treaty.[2] They were deprived of Bijapur and Bedar -

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2. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, Vol. I, p. 503-504.

1. Sardesai, Peshwa's Dafter, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsle, Letter No. 97.

2. Sardesai, Letters & Despatches relating to the Battle of Udgir, L. No. 79 & 84.
Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, I, p. 507.

districts, with the fortesses of Daulatabad, Sewneree, Asseergarh, Bijapur and Ahmednugur.[2]

1760 A.D. This War gave the Marathas an ascendancy to be proud of. They now controlled lands from the banks of the Coleroon to the waters of the Indus.

At this stage Grant Duff giving an estimate of the Maratha character says that "in their conquests, certainly, no other nation can sympathise: they were not animated by that patriotism which devotes itself merely for its country's weal, or its country's - glory, the extension of their sway carried no freedom of opinion; and it rarely brought protection or improved the habits and condition - of the vanquished. Destruction, rapine, oppression and tyranny were their more certain concomitants. The Maratha people, however, who have not followed the profession of arms, and where families --- unconnected with camps and courts, have lived content in the simple enjoyment of their hereditary rights and fields, are except in one respect their habitual disregard of truth, which is strangely -- contrasted with their probity in dealings with each other, a - remarkably moral, kind, humane and hospitable race."[1]

Whatever glory and power the Marathas had gained by the victory at Udgir, they were not destined to enjoy such an ascendancy for long. Their fortune turned against them, at the famous battle of Panipat. It dealt with them such crushing blow, that it took the nation years to recover their fallen prestige, and their annihilated

7th Jan. 1761.

1. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, Vol. I, p. 504-505.
2. Sardesai, Letters & Despatches relating to the Battale of Udgir, L.No. 87.
Graht Duff, History of the Marathas, I, p. 507-8.

might. The battle destroyed the very flower of the Maratha manhood.[1]

JANOJI'S STRUGGLE AGAINST MUDHOJI.

Throughout the above two campaigns, in which most of the Maratha leaders took a considerable part, Raja Janoji was - unable to give his active personal aid to the Peshwa, because he had been kept busy at home, owing to the hostile actions of his-brother Mudhoji.[2] Since the Bhonsle's accession to the Musnud, - the differences between the two brothers had never been definite-ly settled. Mudhoji had carried on his designs, independently of his brother Janoji. He had been punished in the past for his refractory behaviour, but he had begun again after four years, in 1759, to molest and plunder in Janoji's limits.

1759 A.D. Marathi correspondence gives a letter by Trimbakji Raje Bhonsle to the Peshwa which describes the brothers -- dispute as follows,[3]

Mudhoji was harassing Berar from the neighbouring hills and so Janoji sent an army to defend Berar against his incursions. Mudhoji then tried to negotiate through Moro Raghu--nath. Thereupon Janoji sent Raghuji Kurande & others from Berar to bring Mudhoji to Nagpur & himself proceeded from Chandrapur, also to Nagpur. An agreement was proposed whereby Chanda was to be given to Mudhoji.

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1. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, I, p.529.
2. Sardesai, Letters & Despatches relating to the Battle of Udgir, L.No.43-44.
3. Sardesai, Peshwas' Daftar, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsle, L.No.104.

Mudhoji was known for his restless and intriguing ways. He succeeded in winning over Janoji's chief Sardar -- Rughuji Kurande to his cause. Kurande therefore demanded from Raja Janoji the dismissal of Dewaji Punt and Balaji Punt from their hand in the Nagpur administration and insisted that -- Mudhoji should be given the charge of the management of the - government. Trimbakji Raje Bhonsle the Peshwa's agent at -- Nagpur tried to discover the real intention of Mudhoji and - Kurande for their united demand on Janoji. He soon won their confidence which made them ask him to join them against Janoji. Trimbakji evaded such complicity and gave them a few words of advice for their wrong actions against the Raja. Neither -- Mudhoji nor Kurande would listen to him and pressed Raja Janoji for their unjust demands. Later when they failed to get their wishes granted, they left for Berar to incite rebellion there. Raja Janoji soon followed them with 5000 men for the banks of the Wardha.[1]

Raja Janoji had been willing to be reconciled to his brother Mudhoji but the obstinacy of Kurande made it -- difficult for the brothers to come to an agreement. Trimbakji Bhonsle who had been trying to reconcile the brothers wrote in his letter to the Peshwa on the 11th November 1759[2] asking him to press Kurande to desist from his hostile actions towards -- Janoji because the Bhonsle was loyal to the Peshwa in his - actions.. Trimbakji believed that Kurande would listen to the - Peshwa, and that it was Kurande's force of 2000 to 2500 men which strengthened the position of Mudhoji Bhonsle because -

1. Sardesai, Peshwa's Daftar, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles, L.No.104.
2. Ibid.

that prince had only 300 men under him.

January 1760. Further information on the quarrels of the -- brothers is obtained from the joint letter written by Devakur Purshottam and Balaji Keshao the two ministers of Janoji and sent to the Peshwa whilst they were in prison. According to that letter it appears that Kurande and Trimbakji Raje brought about the meeting of Janoji and Mudhoji where demand was made for Mudhoji to control the administration of the country whilst both the ministers of Janoji i.e. Devaji and Balaji should be confined in the fort. The ministers complained to the -- Peshwa that Kurande was instigated by Trimbakji and Vyankat Rao Nana to hold out over this point. Piraji Nimbalkar -- remonstrated with Trimbakji because he believed that Trimbak--ji encouraged Kurande in his false demands. Trimbakji explain--ed that he was only a friend of Kurande and had promised him not to move in any manner against his designs. That his -- neutrality to this affair was misunderstood.[1]

The ministers feared for the safety of their life and warned the Peshwa that Raje intended creating his sway in Berar against the interest of Balaji. The last statement of - the ministers was probably a diplomatic assertion to win over the Peshwa to their side, because we find that Trimbakji did no such thing in the future.[2]

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1. Sardesai, Peshwa's Daftar, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles, L.No.108.

2. Ibid. L.No.109.

On the contrary the dissentions between the brothers were soon after the ministers' letter was sent brought to a preliminary agreement. A few days after one Nilo Gopal wrote to the Peshwa giving terms of an agreement which were more or less settled between the brothers in the middle of February 1760.[1] Mudhoji was to look to the Government affairs, assisted by Raghuji Aurande, Trimbakji Raje, Shahji Raje, and Piraji Naik Nimbalkar. That all private debts of Mudhoji were to be squared, and Chandrapur given to him for his private use. Raja Janoji's desire that things should be done according to the wishes of the Peshwa and that the debts should be paid off jointly by both of them was agreed to.[2]

It appears that Raja Janoji was forced to consent to these demands because Berar was suffering from ravages and the Mughals were encroaching fast into his territories. Soon after the quarrel was settled the ministers were released and Janoji and Mudhoji became busy raising a sufficiently big army to go to the help of the Peshwa because Balaji was moving with his army against the Mughals.[3]

Less than a month afterwards, Janoji _____------

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1. Sardesai, Peshwa's Daftar, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles, L.No.108.

2. Ibid.

3. Ibid, L.Nos.114 & 116.

and Mudhoji were marching to the aid of the Peshwa with a force of 7 to 8000 men.[1] We are not sure, whether Janoji proceeded afterwards to fight by the side of Sadasheo Bhau against the Mughals. Both the Bhonsle brothers may have - only joined the Peshwa, and swelled the reserve force under Balaji and not have taken any part at all in the War.

After the battle of Udgir, till the month of Decem--ber 1760 we don't know what Janoji was doing. He must have been busy settling his territory, which had suffered so much these last few years. The Bhonsle did not join Sadasheo Rao Bhau, on his ill-fated march to Panipat. It was only when the Peshwa was moving to the help of Bhau, and had reached the river Godavary, that Janoji joined him with ten thousand - men in December 1760.[2] In the middle of January next year, whilst crossing the Narbudda, the news was brought to the Peshwa, of the great defeat at Panipat.

1761 A.D. The crushing loss at Panipat broke the spirit of - the Peshwa Balaji. He did not survive the humiliation and sorrow longer. The death of the Peshwa, and the many impor--tant lives lost at Panipat placed the Government of Poona in a state of disorder.[3] The new Peshwa Madhu Rao, was still only seventeen years old,[4] and Raghunath Rao his uncle took up the helm of affairs to bring about some order in the -- Capital.

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1. Sardesai, Peshwas' Daftar, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles, L.No.118.
2. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, I, p.~~528-9~~ 530.
3. " " " " " " I, P.538-9.
4. " " " " " " I, p.538.

MARATHA RULE IN ORISSA. - 1751-1768 A.D.

The Province of Orissa passed into Maratha hands by the treaty of 1751, between Rughuji Bhonsle and Ali Vardi Khan of Bengal. Banerji in his "Orissa" writes that "Ali Vardi Khan was really an independent prince who had thrown off the mask of obedience to the shadow Emperor Muhomed Shah of Delhi by refus--ing to forward the revenues of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa in - 1742 on pretext of the Maratha incursions. In reality Orissa had been ceded to the Bhonsles of Nagpur in full severeignty and Mir Habibulla was their Governor."[1].

We cannot but agree with what Banerji states about the Emperor being a mere shadow of the past greatness, but we cannot forget that it was the same man to whom Ali Vardi wrote supplica--tory letters for help in 1742, ascknowledging him as his master. If the Emperor had not readily come to the aid of his servant in the person of the Peshwa Balaji, Ali Vardi Khan could not have-disposed of so easily the invasion of Rughuji Bhonsle in 1743.

Whether Ali Vardi could pass a valid right to the Marathas over Orissa by his treaty of 1751, should be viewed in the - light of the circumstances, which influenced his judgment and - forced his hands to such a cession. Being the Viceroy he must possess the right to cede and acquire as the man on the - spot, in the interests of his master. The Viceroy's own interests

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1 Banerji's "Orissa" Vol.II, p.117.

in those days were always so linked with those of his master, that in depriving his master of anything, he ultimately deprived ~~the master~~ himself.

Ali Vardi was forced to cede Orissa, because the Marathas had so persisted for years in their depredations, that his - provinces had been placed in a state of ruin and his revenue had suffered severely. By ceding Orissa, the Nawab saved Bihar and Bengal ~~kx~~ for his master and himself; two provinces far richer in value to Orissa.

1751-53 A.D. Though Mir Habib was nominally to rule Orissa in the name of the Viceroy, he was virtually the servant of the Marathas. He was however not destined to rule in Orissa for long. His - checkered career full of adventures, had found ~~himself~~ itself in a peaceful employment of power in Orissa. For a term of a year and some months, he carried out his duties correctly as regards payment towards Nagpur.[1] At the same time he managed to extricate sums, which he paid towards the arrears of his Afgan mercenaries.

Being a man of discipline, and a person who had enjoyed superior authority for ~~a~~ long, he could not brook insubordination or disrespect towards his person, from the Maratha Officials[2] who were in charge of a Maratha force ~~until~~ still in Orissa, and who were all supposed to be under him. They resented his manner of treatment, which was termed arrogant and false, and as soon as -

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1. Seir Mutacherin, Vol. II, p. 113-114.
2. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughal Empire, I, p. 167.

Janoji himself was in Orissa, began maligning Mir Habib and making out false stories to disparage the Deputy.

Janoji himself then a hot headed and insubordinate - young man, jealous of Mir Habib's power countenanced these tales. He forced Mir Habib to tender a complete report of his financial dealings, during his term of office to the Maratha Accountant--General. The Deputy tried means to evade such an examination of his records because he sensed some treachery on the part of his enemies. But later owing to more peremptoriness of orders, he consented to render a complete account, though he was not fully prepared to do so.[1]

The ultimate aim of his Maratha enemies was to despatch Mir Habib when he was placed in an unguarded situation at the - Accountant-General's office. This design they successfully - carried out, though Mir Habib and his few followers made a -- desperate attempt to cut their way off to safety. Thus died - avaliant and true ally of the Marathas.[2] That Janoji gave his - consent to such a foul murder, drew a great slur on his name.

The version given in "Ryaz", attributes the cause of Mir Habib's death to Ali Vardi Khan's cunning. It appears that the Nawab sent a letter, addressed to Mir Habib in the form of a reply to one received from the latter some time back. The reply said "The letter sent by you has been received. What you have written

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1. Seir Mutaqherin Vol.II, p.114-115.
2. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughal Empire, I, p.168.
   Banerji, Orissa, II, p.118-9.

in respect of your plan to extirpate the Maratha free booters has met with my approval. It is a very good idea, you form that side and I from this side will be on the alert and wait. By every means possible try and induce them to come to this side and then what is now in the minds of us both will come to pass." The letter[2] was contrived to fall in the hands of the Marathas. Its contents made them furious against Mir Habib, which resulted in his murder with the consent of Janoji.

1753 A.D. After the murder of Mir Habib, the province of Orissa was left in the hands of Mirza Muslih-uddin, another Maratha - Government's official; a man of very unassuming and quiet nature. Whatever ~~the~~ little, the late Mir Habib had done to settle the - province after the enormous loss and ruin it had suffered, owing to the last prolonged War, it was not sufficient to help this mediocre man. He could not raise the stipulated sum of four lakhs, (after - paying the expenses of the management of the country) to be sent as revenue, along with the chouth of Bengal to Nagpur. Finding his position as the Deputy Governor of the province, leading him into bankruptcy, and the same forcing him to a failure to do his duty towards his master, Mirza Muslih-uddin tendered in his resigna--tion a little before or after the death of Raja Raghuji in the year 1755.[1]

1755-64 A.D. To Mirza Muslih-uddin's post was appointed, a Maratha

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1. Banerji's "Orissa" Vol.II, p.119.
2. Ryaz-Us-Salatin, p.360.
3. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughal Empire. Vol. ~~II~~ I. P.170.

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Officer named Shivram Bhut Sathe. Banerji says that he was mistaken--ly called Sheo Bhut by Mussulman as well as English authors, but it appears that Sheo Bhut must have been used as an abbreviated form in those days, when Europeans and even Muhomedans found it - difficult to pronounce or remember Hindu names.

From the Year 1755 to the Year 1760, little is known about the Maratha Deputy's rule. We can however conclude judging from Sheo Bhut's activities afterwards, that he must have been busy - settling his province, trying to bring it completely under his - control. He was regular in his payments of revenue to his master.

The Deputy was however soon involved in the complicated politics, between the Court of Bengal and that of Nagpur. The friction between the Nawab and tha Marathas, had originated - before he had taken charge of his office, The Maratha Officers had harassed in the past, the Mughal fauzdars who were appointed by the Nawab at Balasore, and they treated the boundary of Orissa, - according to the Mughal Empire divisions, which included Midnapur in it; though the last treat of 1751, expressly stated that Midnapur was not included in the cession.[2] To the Marathas Midnapur served, as a convenient passage for their raids into Bengal and Bihar, and so they were anxious to snatch it for themselves.

But by 1758, their misbehaviours received a rude check, when the English, who were now an influencial factor at the Court of

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1. Banerji, Orissa, Vol. II, p. 120.
2. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughal Empire, I, p. 171.

The Nawab, forced him to withhold the payment of Chauth which had been regularly tendered since 1751. They made the Nawab demand a - guarantee from Nagpur, against the Maratha depradations, The - Court of Nagpur made angry protests, and the Deputy himself sent remonstrating letters at such a defiant attitude of the English. Even though the English later conciliated the Bhonsle, by cunning--ly devised and diplomatic letters, Sheo Bhut made ceaseless - efforts to get the arrears of Chouth.[1]

But all the correspondence and waiting till 1760 on the part of Sheo Bhut, elicitated no satisfying terms for a friendly settlement of the question of the Chouth, Having despaired of success resulting from such methods, Shivram ~~and~~ Bhut opened - military operations against Bengal. "A man of restless enter--prise and daring ambition"[2] he burst into Bengal in December 1760.[3] He made a dash towards Monghyr, passing through Burdwan and Birbhum districts, the Rajas of which were suspected of - having joined him. Later fearing the English he had to return, and on 22nd January 1761 invested Mr.Johnstone at Midnapur.[4]

Midnapur district had been transferred into English - hands by the Nawab in lieu of some obligations for maintaining troops.[5] Mr.Johnstone was in charge of the British troops there. Sheo Bhut attacked this force, and plundered round about. Reinforce--ment was soon despatched to the aid of Mr.Johnstone and when - Shivram learnt of the help coming to Midnapur, he retired to --

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1. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughal Empire. I, p.72.
2. " " " " " " I, p.172-74.
3. Calendar of Persian Correspondence, I, p.56. Ext.880-4 & 851.
4. " " " " I, p.56, No.851, 880 & 884.
5. " " " " I, p.85. Ext.1082.

Cuttack.[1] Shivram Bhut's attack on the British troops, must probably be the first recorded fight between the Marathas and the English.

During the hostile period with Sheo Bhut, the Nawab had not ceased the correspondence with Janoji Bhonsle. Only recently in the beginning of 1761 Mir Kasim Ali who was now the Nawab of Bengal, wrote along an explanatory letter to the Raja about the Chouth of Bengal.[2] So when in April, Sheo Bhut threatened again for the payment of Chouth, the Company sent a reply that the Nawab had explained to the Raja, and settled the matter for the time being. They alleged further, that since Shivram was no longer the Chief of Cuttack, he had no business to demand Chouth.[3]

As to why the Company challenged Sheo Bhut's right as the Deputy, is a matter of conjecture, because we have proofs that he was in charge of Orissa till 1764. There are letters in the Persian Correspondence after 1761, as we shall see, in which Sheo Bhut is treated as the master of Orissa. The Puri Temple records mentioned by Banerji[4] and the "Marathi Riyasat" of Sardesai[5] declare that he ruled in Orissa till 1764.

1761 A.D. To us the attempt to discredit the authority of Sheo Bhut, appears in the form of a political exigency, when the Company learnt that Sheo Bhut independently kept up a hostile Maratha front against Bengal, when his master was unable to come to his aid to enforce the payment of Chouth. It may however appear to

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1. Banerji, Orissa, II, p.126.
2. Calendar of Persian Correspondence. I. P.85, No.1082.
3. " " " " I, P, 88-89, Nos.1099 & 1109.
4. Banerji. Orissa. II. p.132.
5. Sardesai, Marathi Riyasat, Madhiya Vibhag, IV. p.308.

some, that Sheo Bhut was disobeying his master's orders, when that Raja was keeping up a friendly correspondence with the - Nawab and the Company. But it has been proved, that Maratha diplomacy often adopted a measure, in which the servant received private orders to keep up hostility on his own, whilst the master on a friendly basis pressed for better terms of agreement. Besides Shivram Bhut, had given no cause of complaint to his master till 1761, and even if he had not received secret orders to carry out hostile measures, he was absolutely in the right, as the person in sole charge of a very distant province, to adopt such measures in the face of facts, which may have been mutilated in the diplomatic letters of the Nawab and the Company to the Raja of Nagpur, to give him an absolutely different version of the - true story.

However because Shivram Bhut had plundered in Midnapur, the Company's soldiers had retaliated by looting and taking - possession of the Pataspur Purgannah.[1]

In the month of December 1761, Mir Kasim Ali wrote to the Company, that it was unjust that he should be made to pay Chouth[2] when his revenue was in arrears from the districts of - Sylhet, Tippera, Bishanpur and other places. So the Company should help him with troops, as he could not rely on the Shahzahda to - help him against the Marathas.

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1. Calendar of Persian Correspondence. I, p.73, No.1001.
2. " " " " I, p.74, No.1006.

The Governor at Calcutta was only too willing to comply, and wrote back, that he had sent orders to Major Carnac to help Mir Bu Ali Khan the Nawab's General at Bishanpur, with troops.[1] The English encouraged the Nawab with another letter,[2] which said that since he could not pay three years arrears of Chouth, he must - remove the Marathas from Orissa, and take charge of the province himself. That the Company united with the Nawab's forces was more than a match, for any joint attack of the Marathas.

1762- A.D. Such readiness to help him to eject the Marathas, roused the suspicion of Mir Kasim Ali,[3] who did not quite love the English. He sensed his own ultimate extinction, if there was no one left to oppose the already strong English power. He decided in the end to defer for the present, the entire removal of the Marathas from - Orissa.

The Nawab soon regretted his refusal for the English help, because by the middle of February he received another threatening letter[4] from Sheo Bhut. He promptly opened again the negotiations with the English. This time he enquired,[5] about the expenses he will have to incur for the British soldiers, to serve against Orissa. However when the estimate of the expenditure reached the Nawab, his zeal for a war with the Marathas cooled off. The English Governor judged, that for 1000 European soldiers, 2000 "tilangas" 10 pieces of cannon and other necessaries, the monthly expenses would come to

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1. Calendar of Persian Correspondence, I, p.136, No.1394.
2. " " " " I, p.142, No.1425.
3. Banerji, Orissa, II, p.135.
4. Calendar of Persian Correspondence, I, p.146, No.1445.
5. " " " " I, P, 154, No.1481.

150,000 Rs. And since the campaign would last at least for three to four months the cost would rise to about 6 lakhs of Rs.[1]

In the month following, Govind Rao a Vakeel from Janoji brought letters to the Nawab and the Company. The Raja wrote to say, that the Peshwa pressed for the Chouth of Bengal[2] and - he ha got to be satisfied about the money. From this month of May 1762 afterwards, to the month of September in 1763 the - Persian correspondence is silent about Orissa. Sheo Bhut's - letter to the Governor in September 1763[3] gives the state of - affairs than existing. He reprimands the Governor for not - informing hima about his success at Cutwa and states that he had been quite willing to help the English against ~~k~~ Mir Kasim.

This letter of September 1763 reveals to us that the Company must have come to some friendly agreement with the - Marathas. In fact their strict neutrality, when the English were at war with Mir Kasim Ali, speaks for itself. As Sarkar suggests, the English must have paid some amount towards the Chouth, whilst standing guarantee for further payments in the future. The - author's conjecture finds support in one of Janoji's letters in 1765 in which that Raja mentions that no money had been paid - since last two years.[4]

We learn ~~k~~ also, that Mir Kasim Ali had repeatedly - written to Janoji, offering him much money for his help against

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1. Calendar of Persian Correspondence, I, p.154, No.1482, p.160, No.1509.
2. " " " " , I, p.164, No.1535-36.
3. " " " " I, p.238, L.No.1868.
4. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughal Empire. I, p.176.

the English,[1] and promised to send regularly the Chouth of Bengal. Janoji by this time had lost his ardour for conquests, and was concentating more on affairs at home. Besides he had not the heart to break completely with the English with whom in a devious manner, he had kept up a friendly intercourse. In a letter[2] written a few years afterwards, by Janoji to Moroba Dada Padnis a minister at Poona, the Raja declares that Mir Kasim had applied to him for help against the English, but the Raja had refused to go himself, and only offered him troops, if the Nawab could come to the Nurbudda and take them. In the same letter the Raja complains, that the English had Udepuri Gosain as the Nagpur agent in Calcutta for four years, but paid no money towards Chouth except making promises.

The English Governor at Calcutta received a letter in April 1764, which said that one Chimna Bapu was made the new Subadar of Orissa,[3] in place of Sheo Bhut. Three days later they despatched congratulations to the new officer.[4]

The deposition of Shivram Bhut ~~ex~~ is considered by Maratha historians, as a political blunder of Janoji. Even Mr.Sterling of "the Asiatic Researches" according to Banerji, says that "Shivram Bhut was the most energetic of the Maratha Governors of Orissa." The province of Orissa, which was in a ruined state when he took charge, was settled by him so well

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1. Sarkar, Fall of the Mughal Empire, I, p.176.
   Banerji, Orissa, II, p.142.
2. Sardesai, Peshwas' Daftar, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles, I, No.292.
3. Calendar of Persian Correspondence, I, p.301, No.2173.
4. " " " " I, P.301, No.2176.

as to fetch in the year 1764, 1800,000 of Arcot Rs. of which 1400,000 were regular land revenue."[1]

But Shivram Bhut a true Maratha, and now a fairly -- influential man in Orissa, did not quietly submit to his --- disposition. He openly rebelled, and for a long time gave much trouble to the new Officers in Orissa, and much more to the - English districts.

1764-65 A.D. During the Years 1764-65, there were two agents working for Janoji to achieve some measure of an agreement, between the Marathas and the Company. Raghunath Pandit had been directly sent by the Raja from Nagpur, and Bhavani Kalu the Diwan to the Subahdar Chimnaji Shahu or Bhau, moved his resources from Orissa.[2] However both failed to do anything for their master, and Janoji in disgust wrote a severe and long letter[3] to the Governor in December 1765, blaming the English in strong terms, for their - ingratitude and their constant evasion to come to terms of mutual satisfaction. The letter unfortunately failed to evoke any reply.

For some time afterwards, the negotiations languished, till Clive sent assurances in a letter on the 30th August 1766. Janoji in reply to this letter received in February 1767 - mentioned,[4] that letters in the past from the English made - promises of payments, if he kept away from Kasim Ali Khan. Believing in the good faith of the English he had not been -

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1. Banerji, Orissa, II, p.146.
2. " " II, p.147.
3. Calendar of Persian Correspondence, I, p.454-55, L.No.2763.
4. Imperial Records, Political Proceedings, Foreign Dept. Select Committee, XIII, p.104-6.

lured by Kasim Ali's riches, nor given that Prince shelter. But for his marks of friendship, he had been badly treated, since to date he had received no money which the English Company owed him.

1766-67 A.D. However the promises of Lord Clive had revived his belief in the English integrity, and he hoped that there soon will be - reached, a definite understanding between the two powers and -- complete friendship restored. He left everything in the hands of Clive, and the Maratha envoy Udepuri Gosain, whom he had sent with complete powers to deal with any contingency - mentioning ~~k~~ about the British envoy the Raja said that he had not yet reached - Nagpur.

Mir Lain-ul-Abidin, who had been sent by Clive to Nagpur with proposals for an agreement, reached that City on the 25th December 1766, after a long and arduous journey; being seized and detained by four different Rajas, who exacted from him a great deal to let him pass their borders.[1]

In Nagpur he had a long Conference with Janoji and his - Sardars on the 27th December, which ended in the Raja demanding 48 lakhs as Chouth of Bengal,[2] but mentioned nothing about Orissa. This Conference was followed by more meetings, where different - matters were discussed. The upshot of the discussions was, that Mir Abidin returned in April 1767, with certain written demands of the Raja[3] under his sign and seal, to be placed before the - Governor, who was to discuss them with Udepuri, and come to a final

1. Banerji, Orissa, II, p.159.
2. Calendar of Persian Correspondence, II, p.62, No.221.
3. " " " " II, p.40, No.141.

decision.

1767-68 A.D. Shortly before Lord Clive left for England he proposed to the Directors of the Company that "I doubt not the Peace of Bengal may be preserved many years, especially if a firm alliance be established with the Subah of the Deccan and if Janoji, the Nagpur Raja, be satisfied with the Chouth proposed to which, I think he is in justice and equity strictly entitled--and I would - recommend your settling of the Chouth with him agreeably to the plan I have proposed, viz, that we shall pay sixteen lakhs upon- condition that he appoint the Company Zamindar of the Ballasore and Cuttack countries which, though at present of little or no - advantage to Janoji would in our possession produce nearly - sufficient to pay the whole amount of the Chouth. Whatever the deficiency may be, it will be overbalanced by the security and - convenience we shall enjoy of free and open passage by land to and from Madras, all the countries between the two Presidencies being under our influence; but I would not by any means think of employing force to possess ourselves of those districts."[1]

From the month of April 1767 days dragged on and the Governor did not call Udepuri to Calcutta from Cuttack where he had been patiently waiting.[2] However in December the Nagpur agent was sent for, but nothing was discussed with him till the Raja - Janoji and his Diwan ✱ Devakur wrote severely criticising letters

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.30.
2. Banerji, Orissa, II, p.161.

about the English manners of conducting political business.[1] The result of such remonstrances were a show of negotiations which, ended by offering 13 lakhs for the Cession of Orissa through - the medium of the Nawab[2] which, naturally Janoji refused to - accept. The Raja demanded a full settlement of Chouth before the Cession of Orissa could be granted.

Feb.1768 A.D. Only two months afterwards, the Committee at Calcutta got busy and drew up a resolution[3] based on the terms proposed by Clive to the Directors of the Company, to be offered to - Janoji. The President was asked to obtain the Nawab's consent to the terms, and a treaty was to be drawn up.

In the name of the Nawab, treaty was drawn up and - guaranteed by the Officers of the Company in Calcutta supported by the Company's seal[4] - The treaty was sent to Udepuri who asked to be allowed to go to Nagpur to discuss on the terms with the Raja. The Gosain also asked that a trusty British envoy shoudd accompany him. But when the Governor received Udepuri's own - opinion on the terms, which, was not hopeful he thought it wise not to send an envoy to Nagpur nor allowed Udepuri to go there.

1768 A.D. By the 10th of April Sambhaji Ganesh had relieved - Bhawani Pandit as Subahdar and ruled till 1771 - At this stage the Raja Narayan Deo of Parlakhimedi was at war with the Nawab and the English and so Sambhaji offered to help with his --

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1. Calendar of Persian Correspondence, II, p.108-9, Nos.381&390.
2. " " " " II, p.191-99, No.709.
3. Imperial Records, Political Proceedings, Foreign Deptt, Select Committee, XIV, p.77.
4. " " " " " " " Committee, XIV, p.88.

50000 horse if the Governor would pay the Chouth. The Governor refused the help under the conditions.[1]

Being thus busy in Bengal the Company neglected the affairs with Janoji[2] till, they received another letter from the Raja in October which said that he had sent complete terms of his proposals to Udepuri for a final agreement between them. The Governor called upon the Gosain to send him the proposals,[3] which was complied.

Raja Janoji's demands numbered fourteen. They purported that a mutually defensive alliance between the two powers must exist and the Company for the Nawab must pay as Chouth for - Bengal Bihar and Orissa, 16 lakhs of rupees annually.

The Governor and his Council deliberated on the Raja's proposals and with a few changes in some of the terms, they agreed to the main items of the Raja's declaration.[4]

1768-69 A.D. Hardly had a few days passed after drawing up a fresh terms of agreement based on the demands of Raja Janoji, the - Governor was informed that the Bhonsle was involved in a serious war with the Peshwa. Simultaneously with the news came the - request from Raja Janoji asking the English to come to his aid. The Company's position under the circumstances was peculiar. They wanted to interfere because they were influenced by many reasons to move against Madhu Rao. They feared the growing power

1. Calendar of Persian Correspondence, II, p.252, No.892.
2. Banerji, Orissa, II, p.167.
3. Imp. Records, Political Proceedings, Foreign Dept. Select-Committee, XIV, p.653-55. (App.B.53)
4. Ibid. XIV, pp.691-95 (App.B.54).

of the Peshwa and his designs in the Carnatic. The Bombay Government had advised them to show Madhu Rao that the English power was not to be slighted.[1] Lastly that the aid given to Janoji in his extreme need, would make him consent to the terms of their agreement about Orissa and the Chouth of Bengal.

But even all these reasons would not precipitate the astute rulers at Calcutta. They felt the hazards of arousing the hostility of two such strong powers as the Peshwa & his ally the Nizam. They bided their time to see how Janoji fared against his enemies. However the war progressed so fast and the -- diversity of reports that were sent to Calcutta could not make them reach a definite decision.

An extract from a letter sent by the Governor to --- Col.Richard Smith[2] the Commander-in-Chief reveals to us what - finally influenced their attitude towards neutrality in the War between the two Marathas. The extract says : "It is with concern we perceive, the very great ascendancy which Mahdeo Rao has obtained on Janoji and the many dangers seem to threaten the latter from the - considerable force brought against him - However inclined we may be to grant him assistance in his present distress, in the hope of more easily effecting a Cession on his part of the province of Orissa, the very critical and- distressful situation of the Company's affairs on the coast call for aloud of our warmest -

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1. Imperial Records, Political Proceedings, Foreign Dept. Select Committee, XVI, p.210.
2. " " " " " " " Committee, XVI, p.185.

support and compels us for the present to suspend our negotiations with Janoji, that we may be better able to relieve the distress of the Madras administrations."[1]

The suggestions of Mr.Wills that the English refused to help Janoji because he prevaricated over the agreement for Orissa is erroneous. In fact the draft of the last treaty drawn up in December 1769 was based primarily on the terms furnished by Janoji which if it had been sent would have been accepted by the Bhonsle. But since the Raja was dragged in a war with the Peshwa, the - English woudd have been involved as well in it, if the same treaty were to be ratified by the Raja, because the clause about the mutually defensive alliance between them would have forced them to send help to Janoji.

In the end the Bhonsle finished his war himself and made his peace with the Peshwa, Some months afterwards he wrote another of his severely criticising letters to the Company[2] for having - failed to send him help and not paying him his dues. He blamed the Governor of a change of heart, hesitation and distrust. He made - clear that the war had not broken his power nor had he made - humiliating terms with the Peshwa, and consequently it would be wise to have him as his friend.He was again willing to forget the past in the hope that the English would take steps and pay up the arrears of the Chouth.

1.Ibid.XVI.p.185.

2.Calendar of Persian Correspondence.III.p.9-10,No.45.

A conciliatory reply was sent to Raja Janoji in which the English tried to justify their actions.[1] Nothing further however was done for some time in the future. The relationship between the Company and the Nagpur Raja slackened a great deal from 1771 to about 1775. From the Persian Correspondence we obtain one - letter, written to Raja Ram Pundit in April 1771 to congratulate him on his appointment to the Subahdarship of Orissa. The letter asked him to refer to Mr. Marriott the Resident at Ballasore for any settle--ment of business between the two powers.[2]

JANOJI'S BUSY YEARS WITH THE POONA POLITICS.

After the Maratha losses at Panipat the Hyderabad Diwan Nizam Ali thought it opportune to gain some political advantage for the Nizam, at the expense of the Poona Government. A fragment of a Marathi letter written to the Peshwa at the close of 1761 gives us some idea of the political designs hatched at Hyderabad. The letter runs as follows.[3]

"Kabir Khan, Sher Jung and Rukhunuddaulah talked the same thing in common. The Nabab is led away by their words. Ghulam Sayyid Khan and Deo Raj are conspiring quite independently. They talk of winning over the Bhonsle and Hyder against you. . In case you (the Peshwa) were to march against them, thinking that the Nizam was going over to Hyder the Nizam's men were to go to the Carnatic and

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1. Calendar of Persian Correspondence, III, p.61-63. No.203.
2. " " " " III, p.192. No.707.
3. Sardesai, Peshwas' Daftar. Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles, No.128, (Free Translation).

return after settling the affairs there. They explain the Nabob in different terms. Let us see what happens. Ghulam Sayyid Khan has determined to win over the Bhonsle. He opened a talk with Mir Khalil that Bhonsle should come near the Panch Mahals showing that he was going to the Peshwa and giving out his affairs in Panch - Mahals were to be settled. The Sayyid at the same time would bring the Nabob there. Both the Bhonsle and the Nabob were to make a - show of hostility but secretly to become friends. Hyder was to be introduced to the union as well. Mir Khalil declared that Janoji had no aversion to such an enterprise."[1]

But later as it happened Janoji was not induced to go to the help of the Nizam. On the contrary when he learnt that the Mughals were destroying temples and Hindu institutions he showed an eager- -ness to help the Marathas.[2]

A quarrel ensuing between the young Peshwa and his uncle Raghoba, the latter called on Nizam Ali to help him to establish his control in Poona. Raja Janoji finding the Peshwa in difficulty - tried to hurry to his aid. But unfortunately his motive was - misunderstood by Madhu Rao, and before Janoji could reach him and assure him of his loyalty, the Peshwa had made his peace with his uncle. Janoji delayed in reaching the Peshwa because he fell ill whilst on the march.[3]

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1. Sardesai, Peshwas' Daftar, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles, Letter No.128 (Free Translation).
2. " " " " " " " Letter No.131-32.
3. " " " " " " " Letter No.132,135.

The peaceful settlement between the uncle and nephew resulted in a great gain to the Nizam, to whom Raghunath Rao ceded valuable territories.[1] Raja Janoji for his pains got nothing in return but the upkeep of a large army, which was not well paid and for which the Peshwa gave him no monetary help. In disappoint--ment he was looking about for means to right his own indebted position.

A few months of waiting and Janoji was offered an -- alliance which though he disliked circumstances forced him to accept. Nizam Ali heard that Raghunath Rao was having trouble at Poona. His Diwan Withal Sundar known also as Raja Pertabwunt a very cunning man suggested to his master that this was the time to completely reduce the power of the Marathas at Poona[2] with - the help of Janoji Bhonsle who was to be made the Regent of the embecile descendant of Shivaji. The Nizam (since Nizam Ali had usurped/that power recently by imprisoning his brother Salabut Jung) acting on the advice of his Minister, sent his proposals to - Janoji Bhonsle. The Nagpur Raja at once consented, Vyankat Rao Moreshwar writing to the Peshwa in February 1763 says[3] that Janoji Bhonsle was at Pareli near the Godavery. There Gamaji Yemaji came to him with the Nizam's proposals and pressed the Bhonsle to join the Mughal. "I asked them the reason as to why he(Janoji) should go to the Nizam when the Marathas must be united and one'

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1. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, I, p.539.
2. " " " " " " I, p.539-40.
3. Sardesai, Peshwas' Daftar, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles, Letter No.137(Free Translation),

Janoji replied "this year I have collected 25 to 30000 men for the army of the Peshwa who neglected me. How is it - possible to carry on without money?"[1] The Raja then started on his march. The Mughals camped near Gulburga met Janoji at Sultanpur. It was solemnly decided between them that the Peshwa should be fought at any cost as Balaji had enthroned an heir which Janoji and other Maratha Chiefs did not wish to acknowledge.[2] When they were together the Nizam's army numbered about 40 to 45000 strong including about 8000 Gardies and 130 guns. Janoji had brought with him 30000 - soldiers including about 3000 Gardies and 20 cannons.[3]

1763 A.D. Raghunath Rao who was then in charge of the Poona Government found himself in great danger at the union of two strong powers against him. The young Peshwa who was still a prisoner, gave his uncle his full support and -- influence. The Poona army was small and lightly equipped but Mulhar Rao Holkar and Dummaji Gaekwar considered it - quite cabale to do damage to the enemy in the old Maratha manner of warfare. Raghunath Rao advanced to give a battle to Nizam Ali but avoided an action and marched on Auranga--bad. They tried to escalade that fort but were repulsed. On the approach of Nizam Ali the Marathas moved to Berar, entered Janoji's districts and plundered in their usual - manner.[4] They made the City of Mulkapur pay 60000 Rupees

1. Sardesai, Peshwa's Daftar, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles, (Free Translation), L.No.137.
2. Ibid, L.Nos.136-7.
3. Ibid.
4. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, I, pp.540-41.

and being pursued returned to Mungy-Pytun and turned towards the Hyderabad territory. Nizam Ali could not overtake them so he rushed to Poona. The people from the Maratha Capital tried to retreat hurriedly to the hills with their valuables. But Bappu Kurande Janoji's Officer came down to Poona so fast that he captured much property belonging to the fugitives. The village below Singarh was set on fire and thus many manuscripts and state papers were destroyed.[1]

Nizam Ali's army encamped a short distance from the City plundered wherever it could,shortly after,the Mughal - moved to Purandhur and later because of heavy rains and on the advice of Janoji to Aurangabad.

In the meantime Raghunath Rao had attempted to capture Hyderabad,but failed. He however exacted a contribution of - 180000 Rupees from the suburbs. Returning in the neighbourhood of the Mughal army he secretly made overtures to the Marathas in the Mughal Camp.[2] Raja Janoji who had not achieved in any - measure his ambitious hopes and because he suspected the - duplicity of Raja Purtabwunt, readily listened to Raghoba's offers.[3] For territory yielding a revenue of thirty-two lakhs of rupees he consented to desert the Mughals at a critical - moment.[4] Janoji was offered his chance when the Mughal army came to its crossing of the river Godavary before going into Auran- -gabad. Nizam Ali had crossed over first with a part of his - army but his Dewan had been left behind on the south bank with a great/ portion

1.Grant Duff,History of the Marathas, I,p.541.
2.Ibid, I,p.542
3.Sardesai, Peshwa's Daftar, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles,L.No.138.
4.Grant Duff,History of the Marathas,I p.542.

of the army until the forces stores and baggage had been sent over. The Bhonsle under a pretence that his army had not been paid yet, drew away from the Diwan. Such a movement which was to serve as a signal to Raghoba, the Maratha General hurriedly moved towards the Mughal force and attacked it with vigour.The Marathas having an advantage soon disposed of many of the -- valiantly fighting Mughal troops. The Mughal defeat at Rukh--sbundun or Rakhsusbhuwan cost them about 10000 lives. Nizam Ali on the other bank could not go to the help of his army and had to take shelter in the Aurangabad Fort when Raghunath Rao crossed the Godavary in his quest.[1]

After a short term of hostilities[2] at Aurangabad Nizam Ali sought peace in contrition. The person who[3] best benefited from the terms of the treaty was Janoji Bhonsle. However the young Peshwa later in open Court tendered him a stinging rebuke for his treachery towards both the parties.

In the following Years 1764-65 Madhu Rao the Peshwa was busy against Hyder Ali of Mysore. When that Muslin adventure was vanquished in a war, and made to pay a great deal as indemnity the Peshwa returned to Poona. Raghoba had accompanied his nephew on the campaign and was instrumental in the peace with Hyder.[4] The relationship between the Peshwa and his uncle had not yet reached

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1. Sardesai,Peshwas' Daftar,Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles,L.No.138. Wills,p.23.
2. Grant Duff,History of the Marathas,I,p.543.
3. Janoji's Watans etc,which had been attached were also restored by the Peshwa. The Jagir Amal of 33 Parganas valued at ------ ₹ 3206635 was conferred as a Military Saranjam on him.Later, however, lands worth 6700₹ were taken away because he was to have received only 32 lakhs worth of lands.(Vad & Parasnis, Letters of Madhu Rao I,L.Nos.130-32).
4. Grant Duff,History of the Marathas,I,p.544-6.

to a cordial understanding. There was constant friction between them though Madhu Rao a reasonable man had tried to conciliate Raghoba, by admitting him to a share in the government of the country. The Peshwa knew that other - powers were quite ready to exploit the Marathas through Raghoba. He feared most the Nizam and his own tributory Janoji Bhonsle of Nagpur. He decided to put fear atlæst in the heart of one of them. He knew of the hatred the Nizam bore against Janoji, for his treachery at Rakhsbundun. So an alliance with Hyderabad against the Bhonsle would be a very politic measure.[1]

When the Peshwa offered such an alliance, the Nizam willingly agreed to it because it was just what he wanted. Negotiations being completed, terms of which we do not know, the armies of both made for the districts of the Bhonsle by the end of 1765.[2] The Peshwa soon attached most of the Berar to himself. He exacted 175000 Rupees as contribution from Balapur, 170000 Rupees from Akola and - gathered an extra sum of 10000 Rupees in other small -- impositions. He then marched fast towards Nagpur. Raja -- Janoji was not quite prepared for such a serious war. He had sent out Tulaji Punt with only 2000 men whilst he - followed himself with 5000 men to his help. He was 10 kos away from Nagpur in the beginning of January 1766 when the Peshwa was nearing the vicinity of the Bhonsle's Capital.

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1. Grant Duff History of the Marathas, I, p.547.
2. Ibid, I, p.548.

He had written to Piraji Naik Nimbalkar at Sakarkheda to hurry to his help.[1] Though the Peshwa was very near - Nagpur Raja Janoji had not sent any of his men to ---- negotiate for peace.[2] He resented such hostile actions from the Peshwa particularly in combination with the -- Nizam. He however avoided an action and was busy gather--ing his army. At this stage the Peshwa was joined by - Raghunath Rao and he was the cause of an early reconcilia--tion between Madhu Rao and Janoji because we learn from his letter to Holkar that he was anxious to end this - campaign of the Peshwa as soon as possible. If such a thing was achieved earlier Raghunath Rao hoped to lead an army against the north with help from the forces of the Peshwa and Raja Janoji. In fact as soon as he arrived near the Peshwa's camp he started pleading with Madhu Rao on Janoji's behalf. He urged that it was not fair to -- punish Janoji so severely when the punishment of the -- Bhonsle was so easy a matter. That as it was sufficient exactions were made from his territories and the Raja and his Sardars were suitably terrorised.[3]

In a few days more Janoji learnt how futile it was to struggle against the united forces of Madhu Rao and the Nizam. So when Raghunath Rao interceded for him ---

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1. Sardesai, Peshwa's Daftar, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles, L.No.165.
2. Ibid, L.No.164.
3. Ibid, L.No.184.

and called him for an interview[1] Janoji who was with his army in the nearness of Madhu Rao's camp decided on - taking advantage of the offer. He came to the Peshwa's camp with only 50 followers and made an abject submission to him.[2] The interview between Janoji and the Peshwa was very short, matters regarding the peace negotiations were hardly discussed. Therefore Janoji went to Raghoba and asked his further intercession for some better terms of peaceful negotiations. A week later Raghunath Rao's -- intercession must have brought the negotiations for peace to a conclusion because a treaty was signed by which -- Janoji was made to return three-fourths of the property he had gained for his treachery to the Nizam after the Battle of Rukhsbundun. Much of what was taken from Janoji was given to the Nizam.[3]

After the above campaign had come to an end Janoji was to have accompanied Raghoba to the north. But he did not do so. Following the settlement of his troubles with the Peshwa Raja Janoji was faced with rebellious - Home politics in his country. Some of his leading Sardars under Piraji Naik Nimbalkar created disturbances in his - territories, because the Raja failed to pay the arrears of pay. Ghorpade, Patankar, Babu Rao Konher and others -----

1.Sardesai,Peshwa's Daftar,Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles, L.No.184.

2.Ibid,L.Nos.170 & 184.

3.Grant Duff,History of the Marathas, I,p.548.

concerted ways to plunder in the rich districts of the State. They demanded from the Raja that they should be allowed - to have a hand in the administration of the State. Raja -- Janoji had not a sufficiently large and staunch force to - destroy these rebels. He was also unwilling to have more - bloodshed in his country. He decided to meet with some of - their demands and after some negotiations he satisfied them with eight lakhs of rupees.[1] He wrote to Raghunath Rao -- describing his circumstances which prevented him from join--ing him in the north. However the Bhonsle assured Raghoba that he will prove his loyalty to him by joining with an - army after the Dussera. For the present Janoji was sending him three lakhs and some troops.[2]

1767-68 A.D. The above information is the only facts that comes to us of Janoji's activities in 1766. The following - Years 1767 and 1768 are blank as to historical details. By the end of the Year 1768 we learn that Janoji's relationship with Raghunath Rao was causing renewed anxiety to the Peshwa Madhu Rao. Relations between the uncle and nephew had again become hostile.[3] Raghoba had raised a large force on the Godavary and near the Fort of Dharup.

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1. Sardesai, Peshwa's Daftar, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles, L.No.176.

2. Ibid.

3. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas. I, pp.557-8.

Dharup. He expected the Bhonsle to join him there in a short - while.

The Peshwa being given the intelligence of such a -- rebellion and wishing ~~to~~ to prevent an union between Raghoba - and Janoji came down on his uncle rapidly. Raghunath Rao was - defeated in a battle and forced to seek shelter in the Fort of - Dharup. Madhu Rao invested the fort and soon made his uncle surrender himself. Raghoba taken prisoner was carried to Poona.[1]

It was the beginning of the rainy season which prevented Madhu Rao from proceeding against Janoji. But during the monsoon the Peshwa sought the alliance of the Nizam and Hyder Ali against Janoji because he feared that the English would come to the aid of the Bhonsle.

The Peshwa's negotiations however ended in his securing only the help of the Nizam.[2] On the other hand Janoji who had - called on the English to come to his aid in his hour of need, the Company officials at Calcutta prevaricated and evaded the Raja's requests.

Janoji Bhonsle was thus forced to face again the united might of two very strong powers. But this time he had the -- opportunity of getting prepared for the attack. He won over his disaffected Sardars particularly Piraji Naik Nimbalkar one of

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1. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, I, p.559.
2. " " " " " " I, p.560.

the most powerful amongst them. With their help he raised men and money for the campaign. He gathered about 14000 soldiers, who were all assmbled at Nandgaon where a park of artillery was to join them from Nagpur.[1]

The rainy season over the Peshwa Madhu Rao advanced against Janoji whilst he was at Dahihanda with 30000 men, Raja Janoji sent him an agent to seek ~~xxxxx~~ peace. The Peshwa refused to treat and advanced from Dahihanda. He was 40 kos away from - Janoji.in the middle of December. At this time the Mughal force of 5000 men was at Nanden.[2]

By the end of December Rukhmud-daulah who was in charge of the Nizam's troops must have joined the Peshwa at Pohner on the Godavari. Then on the combined force moved against Janoji through the hills at Vasim into Berar.[3]

Raja Janoji avoided a ~~xx~~ battle against such a strong force and wisely retreated.[4] He took refuge in the forests.

The four Mahals of the Bhonsle i.e.Khedle,Mehkar,Chakhan and Jintur were attached by the Peshwa.Madhu Rao pushed to Chand courting further victories. The Fort of Gawilgurh which was - held by Narhar Balla, was then invested by a combined Mughal and Maratha force detached by the Peshwa under Bidkar,Nimbalkar,

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1.Sardesai,Peshwas' Daftar,Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles, Letter No.204.
2. " " " " " " " "L.No.206.
3. " " " " " " " "L.No.208.
4. " " " " " " " "L.No.213& 216.

Raja of Khandar and others. Narhar Ballal fought valiantly but was defeated and killed,[1]

Raja Janoji with his brother Mudhoji had encamped at Nagpur. When the Peshwa neared the Capital the Bhonsles retreat--ed. Mudho Rao coming to Nagpur plundered the City but Janoji made no attempts to prevent him. On the contrary he moved away to Ramtek. Here all the four Bhonsle brothers gathered together each with a good force under his command.[2]

With his enlarged force Janoji made a feint towards the Peshwa's territory in the north but this did not deceive -- Madhu Rao. He garrisoned the Bhonsle thanas with his own men, collected the revenue all over the country under Janoji and laid seige to Chanda.[3] Having failed to draw the Peshwa Janoji turned westward and rapidly marched passed Ahmednagar plundering on his way to Poona.[4]

1769 A.D. When the inhabitants of the Maratha Capital heard of - the hostile approach of Janoji they in their usual manner sent away their valuables to the hills.[5] The Peshwa, becoming aware of Janoji's purpose at once despatched Gopal Rao Putwurdhan and Ramchander Ganesh with 30000 horse in pursuit of the Bhonsle. Janoji moved fast and was in Poona much before the pursuing - army. Even whilst Gopal Rao was in his neighbourhood Janoji did

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1.Sardesai,Peshwas' Daftar,Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles,No.224.
2.Grant Duff,History of the Marathas,I,p.577-8.
3.Sardesai,Peshwas' Daftar,Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles,No.246.
4. " " " " " " " "Nos.233-35.
5.Grant Duff,History of the Marathas,Vol.I,p.579-80.

not stop plundering round about Poona.[1] Gopaul Rao's dilatory methods made the Peshwa suspect his sincerity and abandoning the seige of Chanda himself marched towards Poona.

Having finished with Poona Janoji marched to Godavary.[2] From here he pretended that he was willing to give an open - battle to the Peshwa. Needless to say that he avoided the Peshwa's army near Mahur and marched passed it. However he detached Bapu Kurunde to attack the Peshwa's army from an advantageous position.[3] That general took a circuitous way route and suddenly fell upon the baggage, succeeded in carrying away a portion of it.

By this time both sides had had enough of warfare. Janoji though he was fairly successful in his attempts had to admit that if the war were to prolong further he would a be ruined man. At - the same time he had received alarming news of intrigues set - afoot[4] in favour of his brother Mudhoji. For a long time past Devakur Punt had made great attempts for his master to conciliate the Peshwa. In the beginning his overtures were ignored, but not getting disappointed disappointed he had redoubled his zeal - to gain a peace for Janoji. Now, when Madhu Rao felt that he had taught the Bhonsle a good lesson, he was willing to listen to the terms of Janoji's minister. Having carried on some negotiations Devakur went to bring his master to the Peshwa's presence.[5]

A small letter from the Marathi Correspondence says that

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1. Sardesai, Peshwas' Daftar, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles, Nos. 244, 247 & 249.
   Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, Vol. I, p. 580-82.
2. Sardesai, Peshwas' Daftar, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles, No. 248.
3. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, I, p. 582-83.
4. " " " " " " I, p. 584.
5. Sardesai, Peshwas' Daftar, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles, Nos. 212, 244-245, 257, 267.

Janoji started on his visit to the Peshwa in the middle of April 1769. Mr.Sardesai puts the date down as the 8th April- Janoji was greeted by Dada (Moroba) 40 miles ahead of the - Peshwa's Camp at Mehkar.[1] Later he saw the Peshwa and the - terms of the treaty were finally settled.[2] The Peshwa Madhu Rao had intended to humble the Raja of Nagpur and now when the purpose was accomplished called upon him to get - reconciled to this prince, and if he could to win him over as his friend and staunch ally - Consequently the Peshwa offer- -ed terms which were not harsh ones for Janoji. They restor- -ed much of his territorial powers, at the same time so check- -ed his political influence as to place him as the dependent to the Poona Government. The idea of the Maratha confederacy was again put into practice by the medium of this treaty - which won for the Peshwa one of the great Maratha Chiefs of India.[3]

The terms of the treaty of Kankapur demanded that Janoji must give up the remainder of the districts he had - received, after his treachery to the Nizam in 1763 and surrender- -ed certain isolated shares of revenue or its equivalent, for - what right fully belonged to Futeh Sing Bhonsle Raja of Akulkote. The Ghas-dana dues of Janoji from the Peshwa's district of -

1.Sardesai,Peshwas' Daftar,Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles,No.277.
2. " " " " " " " No.279.
3.Grant Duff,History of the Marathas,I,p.585.

Aurangabad was withheld and for the same dues from other - districts of the Peshwa and the Nizam, a stipulated sum was - to be regularly paid to the Bhonsle - if the Nizam failed to pay this sum the Raja had the option to collect by force of arms.[1]

As regards Janoji's military establishment, the treaty demanded that ~~him~~ he could not increase or diminish the - number of his troops, without the permission of the Peshwa. With this same army he was to be in readiness to go to the - aid of the Peshwa, when called upon.

Raja Janoji had to pay to the Peshwa a tribute of - 500001 Rupees, by five annual instalments.

Because the Bhonsle objected to the Peshwa's army going through his territory and harassing his people on its march northward, the Peshwa agreed to send his army henceforth by the old route, away from the Nagpur frontier.

Janoji wanted Madhu Rao to help ~~per~~ him personally or through his officers to regain his lost rights in the east against the English - The Peshwa agreed to help if he had no other enterprise on hand and was sufficiently strong to embark on such a design.[2]

Being heavily in debt the Bhonsle asked the Peshwa

1.Vad & Parasnis, Letters of Madhu Rao I, L.No.152.
2.Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, I, p.585.

not to encourage his creditors whose demands Janoji would - satisfy as soon as he could. To this Madhu Rao had no objec--tion as long as the creditors received satisfaction.[1]

About the Nagpur relations with other States, Janoji desired that the Peshwa should not believe charges brought - against the Bhonsle, unless there were documentary proofs fur--nished to support the allegations - The Peshwa demanded that Janoji was not to enter into political and foreign relations with the other powers, detrimental to the interest of the Marathas. If this was observed he could maintain direct connec--tions with foreign parties to adjust his financial and -- revenue matters.

Finally the Peshwa granted him fresh sunnuds, for the rights and authority which Janoji had acquired from his father.[2]

The political policy of Raja Janoji after the Treaty of Kankapur was quite sober and cautious. He henceforth adopted a friendly intercourse with Peshwa.

By the end of the Year 1769, Hyder Ali had designs of a formidable confederacy against Madhu Rao. Sending out his - envoys to different Courts he sent overtures[3] for an alliance to Janoji as well. The Nagpur Raja was decidedly put out at the

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1. Report on the Historical Records Commission. Sardesai's Paper, P.38-39.
2. " " " " " " " "p.39.
3. Sardesai Peshwas' Daftar, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles, L. No.287.

offer. His recent peace with the Peshwa, by which he received such considerate treatment would not make him ungrateful to that prince's generosity. There was the temptation to recover from his embarassed financial condition but he had not courage left, to enter into another speculative venture. Consultation with his Minister and his personal wisdom, made him dismiss the Mysore envoy without entering into further negotiations. At ~~the~~ the same time he reported to Moroba Dada the Peshwa's Minister about Hyder's offers.[1]

~~The~~ To prove that he was absolutely loyal in his - dealings with the Peshwa Janoji sent his brother Sabaji with an army to the aid of the Peshwa against Hyder Ali. Sabaji - joined the Peshwa at Jejuri in the month of December 1769. He was well received by Madhu Rao.[2]

1770 A.D. During the following Year Raja Janoji's financial state was really bad. He sent out two expeditions to obtain some money. Shivaji Kesheo was directed to the Godavari ~~reign~~ region whilst Mudhoji Bhonsle was sent to Gadha Mandla.[3] Raja Janoji complained to Moropant Dada that the land under him - had become worse owing to monetary stringency. He was depending on the Peshwa to help him out of his difficulties.

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1. Sardesai, Peshwas' Daftar, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles. L.No.287&292.
2. " " " " " " " " Letter No.293 & 297.
3. " " " " " " " " Letter No.297.

1771 A.D. Having an urgent desire to see the Peshwa, Janoji left Nagpur in 1771. He saw Madhu Rao at Theur[1] where that prince had gone to recover from a sudden attack of consumption. Raja Janoji being a childless man, declared to the Peshwa his wish to adopt a son to succeed him on the Musmud. The selection of his nephew Raghuji the son of Mudhoji Bhonsle was approved of by the Peshwa, who gave his sanction to the adoption.[2]

Further business having ended, Janoji must have prepared to return to Nagpur when the Peshwa had a relapse, out of which he never recovered. In the month of November 1771 this brilliant and best of all Peshwas, passed away at the very young age of 28 years.[3]

1772 A.D. Janoji was detained at Theur for some time. Later, in 1772 when on his way to his Capital, he was also attacked by severe pains in his stomach and was soon laid on his death bed in the Village of Tuljapur.[4] His brother Mudhoji was at his bedside[5] and before Janoji died ~~his~~ he appointed Mudhoji as the regent to his minor son Raghuji who was to succeed on the Musmud[6] - Raja Janoji died on the 21st May 1772.[7]

Raja Janoji did not prove himself a successful -

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1. Sardesai, Peshwas' Daftar, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles, No.299.
2. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, II, p.3.
3. " " " " " " I, p.585-6.
4. Sardesai, Peshwas' Daftar, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles, No.300.
5. " " " " " " " No.301.
6. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, II, p.3.
7. Sardesai, Peshwas' Daftar, Letters of the Nagpur Bhonsles, No.301.
   Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.25.

soldier like his father. In the early stages of his reign, he was burning with the desire of a true soldier to win glory and conquests; but to obtain these his methods of procedure and his unhappy partisanships, did not give him the measure of success he expected. Later on, because of his constant hostility towards the Peshwa a stronger and cleverer man than himself, the absolute independence that Janoji had inherited from his father was snatched from him and by the end of his reign, he was made a very humble man. His varying relationship with the Nizam, did not put him at a great deal of perceptible loss but the Mughal's alliance with the Peshwa on the different occasions, were instrumental in the Bhonsle's downfall. Another factor which caused Janoji some loss of power was the growth of the English Company in Bengal. The withholding of the Bengal Chouth by them was not the only loss he sustained. The Nagpur Marathas were prevented from plundering in Bengal, Bihar and Northern Sarkars owing to the strict watch kept by the English troops who meted out punishments in deserving measure for any such misbehaviour.[1]

Considering ~~on~~ Raja Janoji as the ruler at home, he showed himself a better man than his father. He centralised as much of the power as he could in his own hands. In provinces far away from his Capital where the manner of government was feudal,[2] he could not keep a strict control. There the Subahdars

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1.Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.41-42.

2.Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.153.

were absolute masters and consequently most of the mismanage--ment, cruelty, poverty and other faults which were attributed to the Maratha/ Government were perpetrated with impunity as - long as Janoji was unable to right the wrongs. These defections were often punished when brought to the notice of the Raja.

Wherever Janoji had sufficient control, those parts - were well governed civilly and judicially. The area enjoyed - peace and carried on its agriculture. Industries suitable to the place were encouraged. Jenkins in his Report of 1826 - observes "that in this reign justice was well administered, crimes were few and the punishment seldom capital. The revenues were flourishing and the people in easy circumstances. The - allowances of all Officers, civil and military and of the - troops were regularly paid."[1]

The accounts of Motte, the envoy sent by Clive to - Janoji, about the rule of the Nagpur Raja are coloured by what he saw in Orissa, a very distant province and the worst managed of Janoji's whole dominion.[2]

Though Janoji failed to attach extensive territory to his own, except a small tract in Berar, he can be termed a good administrator for his great work in consolidating the - conquests of his father. The revenue of Raghuji which was ---

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.153.

2. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.38.
   Hunter, Orissa, Vol.II, p.44.

estimated at a crore was obtained by force of arms and often by plunder, whilst those received by Janoji was due to his - peaceful organisation, which made people surrender without - trouble towards the expenses of the government. He seldom - could have reached his father's total of a crore but deducting his loss of Chouth from Bengal, the Ghasdana from Aurangabad and the plunder from the Northern Sarkars, Bengal and Gangthari the estimate should come to between seventy and eighty lakhs of rupees.

Raja Janoji was a mediocre man. He was neither bril- -liant on the battlefield nor an absolute administrator at - home. He must have known his limitations and recognised the - ability of his ministers like Devakur and Balaji Pundit, Bhawani Kalu and others, to allow them a great share in the management of his country. Janoji was a simple man by taste and habit. He was not so sensuous nor so cruel to be hated or so grasping - and dominant to be a tyrant.

Richard Jenkins describing[1] a day in the life of Janoji says that the Raja usually got up at four in the morning to - perform his exercises till daybreak. The officers of the State and household then were admitted to pay their respects and make their reports to which the Raja listened whilst in his bath.

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.153.

Afterwards he heard the reading of the foreign papers -- (akhbars) and verbal news brought by his spies. Private - audiences were then given to desired individuals.

Having this disposed of some of his days business he went to worship at his private chapel(mandir) and distri--buted alms to the brahmins. About ten in the morning he - dressed for the morning Durbar which was held on an open - verandah. The Durbar broke up at noon when the Raja retired for his meal and his rest. After the siesta he inspected his arms, horses and elephants and again set in Durbar till sun--set though his ministers contracted business of the day till late in the evening or night.

The etiquette and ceremonies of the Court were simple. The Raja rose to receive any stranger as his equal. He took the salute and embraced him. In many cases he moved out to - welcome the guest. On usual days the Raja dressed like his - courtiers and could not be easily distinguished from them. On greater occasions he wore his jewels and used the Musmud made of pillows and embroidered silk carpets. On the day of a festival particularly that on Deshera day his personal as - well as State pomp and show was very distinguished and ----- splendid.[1]

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories,p.153-54.

CHAPTER V.

RUGHUJI II (OR THE REGENCY OF MUDHOJI).

THE WAR BETWEEN THE BROTHERS.

1772 A.D. To Raja Janoji succeeded his adopted son Rughuji.[1] But in 1772 he was a minor only 12 years old, consequently the late Raja Janoji had selected his brother Mudhoji, the little prince's own father to act as the Regent in the name of the young Raja. However when the time came for Mudhoji to take over his office as the Regent, he found that Durya Bai the late king's widow with the help of the ministers of the late Raja had attached to herself the powers of the government and appointed Sabaji Bhonsle, Mudhoji's brother as her Dewan and the general of her army.[2]

From this injustice Mudhoji could not get redress at the Poona Court because he had been the partisan and follower for some time past of Raghunath Rao the uncle of the present Peshwa, a man not favoured at the Court of Poona. Narain Rao

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1. Rughuji must have been born in 1760- He was 28 when he ascended the Musnud as complete ruler in 1788. (Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.118.).
2. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, Vol.II, p.3.
   Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.111-12.

the Peshwa advised by his ministers had raised Sabaji to the title of Sena Sahib Subah, in lieu of his agreeing to the conditions entered into by the late Janoji Bhonsle with the Poona Court.[1]

1773 A.D. Mudhoji Bhonsle left to his own resources to establish his true claims as the Regent at Nagpur, raised men and money to overpower the ruling authority in the Capital. The Peshwa being informed of Mudhoji's hostile designs against his brother/ offered to settle their dispute but Mudhoji desired to put his unsk chances to the fortunes of a war, and so refused to listen.[2]

Mudhoji then led his army against his brother. Both the forces met at Koombari near Akola. Some of Mudhoji's men without his consent carried the Juree Putka of the Sena Sahib Subah before the army. This was considered as an ill omen by the other Marathas in the army but Mudhoji refused to be sway--ed by superstition and boldly led his men to action. Fate - however did not favour him. He suffered a severe defeat and was forced to fly.[3]

To prevent further bloodshed amongst themselves, the officers on both sides thought it wise to cause a reconcilia--tion between the brothers. The Peshwa's Vakil at Nagpur took

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1.Wills,The Nagpur State in the 18th Century,p,44.
G.Wad, Letters of Sawai Madhu Rao,Letter No.226.

2.Grant Duff,History of the Marathas,II,p.3,Note 1.

3.Jenkins,Report on the Nagpur Territories,p.112.

a leading part in settling this dispute. An agreement was reached in the end.[1] The terms which were completed and -- guaranteed by the chiefs, were, that Durya Bai was to adopt - Rughuji Bhonsle, and Sabaji with Mudhoji, were jointly to -- manage the affairs of the government.

Peace between the brothers did not endure for long. Durya Bai fearing the growing power of Sabaji as the Sena -- Sahib Subah, transferred her support to Mudhoji's party and soon raised, another conflict in the Nagpur State.[2]

Mudhoji accompanied by his force left for Elichpur where he won over the Governor of the place, Ismail Khan to his -- cause. In the meanwhile, Sabaji Bhonsle secured the help of the Nizam, and also called on the Peshwa to support him. The state of hostility prevailed for some time, without any one having obtained any decisive advantage.[3] The condition of Mudho--ji had become worse than before. Raghunath Rao could not give him substantial aid but exhorted him to persevere.

Mudhoji's patient suffering soon received an adequate - reward. Raghunath Rao had become the Peshwa after the -- murder of Narain Rao. Finding Raghoba in power, Mudhoji -- accompanied by his son, and the widow of Janoji joined him at Poona. The new Peshwa conferred the title of Sena Sahib on the

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1. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, II, p.4.
2. Ibid, Vol.II, p.4-5.
3. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.112.

young Rughuji. Sabaji Bhonsle on the other hand continued to be the ally of the ministers opposed to Raghoba's ---- accession.[1]

Mudhoji having decided to stay with Raghoba, Durya Bai with Rughuji returned to Nagpur. The fortunes of Raghunath Rao wavered with the opportunities and strength of the ministerial party. Sabaji Bhonsle gave substantial aid against Raghoba. A short time afterwards the ~~xx~~ birth of the posthumus son of Narain Rao removed for ever his chances of being continually recognised as the Peshwa. The new hope, gained for the ministe--rial party fresh adherents~~p~~ to their cause. Discovering their strength overgrown, Raghoba removed his camp northwards, to --- obtain help for himself from Sindia and Holkar. It was when - Raghoba was ~~xx~~ crossing the Nurbudda on his way from Burhanpur, that Mudhoji Bhonsle and his followers deserted him.[2]

As soon as the baby Peshwa was invested with his powers, the ministers managing his affairs, removed Rughuji Bhonsle from the office of the Sena Sahib Subah and conferred that title - again on Sabaji Bhonsle.

Mudhoji having left Raghunath Rao (most probably -- because his brother was again created the Sena Sahib by the - Poona authorities) ventured again to place his son on the Nagpur

1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.44.

2. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, Vol.II, p.31-35.

Musmud with the force of arms. The hostility between the brothers did not reach a climax until, they faced one -- another with big armies on the field of Panchgaon, a -- village 12 miles from Nagpur on the road to Umrer.[1] The - battle was engaged, in 1775. Sabaji a dashing soldier soon - gained an advantage over Mudhoji's troops, most of whom were surrounded by his men. But the visions of a glorious victory in sight, overpowered Sabaji's caution, under the influence of bravado, he led his elephant deep into Mudhoji's ranks, and came face to face with his own brother on another elephant. Sabaji called on Mudhoji to surrender but the -- hot-headed Mudhoji retaliated by discharging his pistol on his brother. Unhappily the ball lodged itself in a fatal - spot and Sabaji Bhonsle lost his life.

The death of their leader made the soldiers of Sabaji waver which the rallying charge by Mudhoji's men turned it - soon into a rout.[2]

Mudhoji's fortunate success at Panchgaon, restored him to his rights at Nagpur but his son was not yet recognised as the Sena Sahib by the ministers at Poona. Mudhoji solicit--ed Nana Furnavis to obtain the grant to the rights of his - son from the Peshwa. After some hesitation, because the -

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.44.
   Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, II, p.48.
   Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.113.
2. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.44.
   Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, II, p.48.

ministers feared Mudhoji to eventually go to the aid of - Raghoba, they consented that the Peshwa should bestow the on the young Rughuji Bhonsle, all the rights of the late Raja of Nagpur. On Mudhoji himself they conferred the title of Sena Dhurandhur.[1]

MUDHOJI BEGINS TO RULE.

Hardly had Mudhoji settled down to his office as the ruler in the name of his son, when he was faced with a serious menace in the person of Ibrahim Beg Dhonsa conducting a hostile force against Nagpur under the orders of the Nizam. It was - given out that Ibrahim Beg, a near friend of the late Sabaji, had come with the consent of the Nizam to revenge the killing of the Bhonsle. The story was a mere pretence, the ultimate aim being to take advantage of the weak state of the Nagpur ---- Government.

Mudhoji Bhonsle had not sufficient strength to drive away the Mughals, so he submitted to a treaty[2] which deprived - him of the Forts of Gawilgarh, Nurnala Manikdrug, and Chandra- -pur (Chanda). However the loss to the Bhonsle was only tempo- -rary because a few months afterwards when Nizam Ali came to visi visit the Ellichpur Chief, Mudhoji accompanied by his son --

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.112.
2. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, II, p.67-68.

Rughuji, made his very humble submission to him, for which those forts were graciously restored to him. The Raja was asked to suppress the depradations of the Gonds into the Mughal territory and always cooperate faithfully with the designs of the Nizam.[1]

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1. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, II, p.68.

THE ENGLISH COMPANY RELATION WITH MUDHOJI BHONSLE.

1771-1775 A.D. From 1771 to 1775 the political intercourse between the English Company and the Nagpur Raja was very slack. In the fact the internal wars between the Bhonsle brothers, prevented the English from introducing again the topic dealing with the Cuttack affairs which had not been settled during the reign of the late Janoji. Only a few - friendly letters[1] had been exchanged between the Nagpur Court and the Government at Calcutta during this period. It was when Mudhoji Bhonsle became the undisputed Regent in 1775 that he sent Madhuji Hari as his Subahdar in - Cuttack[2] after which a steady intercourse followed.

In the month of October 1776, the Governor General wrote to Mudhoji Bhonsle, complaining about the misbehaviour of the Raja of Kanika and Kujang who had given barbarous treatment to certain European merchant ships. This petty Raja being under Mudhoji's influence, the Governor General[3] demanded his punishment for the mischief. In the same - letter Mudhoji was requested to rent this coastal strip to the English Company who would build sufficient struc--tures to safeguard the coast from any further -------

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1. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Consultation, 17th April 1775, Cons.No.1.
2. Calendar of Persian Correspondence, III, p.315, No.1313.
3. Ibid, IV, p.51, No.311.

misdemeanours.[1]

Mudhoji Bhonsle sent a reply to the above letter in March 1777, stating that he had taken instantaneous steps to prevent further such atrocities and ordered Mahdaji Hari to help Mr.Marriott to prevent such hostile attempts in the future.[2]

Over the same matter the Governor General received a letter also from Mudhoji's Diwan Devakur Pundit. The Diwan added that the Raja had ordered the Chastisement of the Kujung Chief.[3]

Now in 1774 the management of the English Companys' affairs had fallen into the hands of Warren Hastings who had been appointed the Governor General at Calcutta. His energetic mind had thought out a policy some time back, for the future advancement and prosperity of the English Company and which, now that he had gained authority he put into practice. The Governor General desired that the Company should enter into firm and permanent alliances with powerful adjoining States so that their integrity may be preserved from the ambitious designs of the Poona Marathas, Hyder Ali and the Nizam --- influenced by French support. The States with whom Hastings particularly wished to unite were the Nagpur and the Outh Kingdom.

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1. Calendar of Persian Correspondence, IV, p.51, No.311.
2. Ibid, IV, p.77, No.495.
3. Ibid, IV, p.111, No.728.

1778 A.D. With the State of Nagpur the English Company as we noticed before, were on friendly terms without having - entered into any definite agreement. But by 1778 when -- England was at war with France,Hastings had to prepare - against French hostility in India. To him an alliance with Nagpur appeared more appropriate as it served as "the pivot of his defence against the combined attack of the Erench - and the Poona Marathas which he anticipated."[1] He promptly decided sending Elliot his most trusted subordinate to - Nagpur, to carry on negotiations for the purpose.[2]

At the same time he issued orders to the Bombay - Government for bidding them from entering into engagements against the Poona Court and prepared them about his project--ed alliance with Nagpur. Hastings knew that of all his - centres Bombay was the weakest, and so the most likely to be attacked. To guard against this weakness he had ordered the Government there, to keep on friendly terms with the --- Marathas, and also ordered the detachment of troops under - Colonel Leslie, operating in Bundelkhund to move by the way of Nagpur to the support of Bombay.[3] The Governor General's intentions of ordering a march via Nagpur was to obtain - provisions and a safe transport and if possible a joint - military operation if Elliot succeeded in gaining Mudhoji's

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.47.
2. Ibid, p.54.
3. Ibid, p.48-54.

alliance.

Coming back to our subject of the Nagpur relations with the Company, we find that Elliot's Embassy was the - first official British mission to the Nagpur State Court. Though it failed to achieve its purpose, there was a great - deal of importance attached to its aim and a note of tragedy and drama attached to its endeavours. Alexander Kynynmound - Elliot was a very young man who had earned importance and influence in the Company's Government, by his marked ability. He had attached himself to Hastings and was his private - Secretary in 1778.[1]

1778 A.D. When Elliot left for Nagpur he was accompanied by Robert Farquhar as his assistant, by Captain Campbell -- presumably in charge of his escort and by Lieut. James -- Anderson[2] whose position was vague in the mission. The -- deputation proceeded straight against to Cuttack which they reached on the 10th August. After it left Cuttack, extreme - hardships, in the form of constant and heavy rain, very bad forest paths and dangerous and at time fatal climate of those districts beset the members of the expedition. Having reached Sonpur the Capital of the Baud State, they took a rest for - two days. Leaving Sonpur they met with very heavy rain which

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.55.

2. James Anderson was the brother of David Anderson, who -- carried on negotiations afterwards in 1781. (Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.55).

made their progress extremely slow. On the 7th September they reached Semra a village on the bank of a stream called Lath, some seven miles from Saranghar, the seat of the Raj-Gond State of Sarangarh. The bad weather and the exposure to it had taken a heavy toll, because many of the persons suffer--ed from some physical ailment. The state of the leader of the Deputation was much worse compared to the others. He suffered from a severe bilious disorder attended with an inflammation of the liver since the 4th instant. The fever attending on the disorder increased by the 8th instant and on the 11th - September his condition became hopeless. Elliot expired on the 12th night after a severe and painful illness.[1]

His death was a great blow to Hastings politically and privately. The Governor General had great hopes about the mission which henceforth suffered from a lack of a - guiding hand. And the loss of an estimated and loved friend was a personal grief to the much maligned Hastings. He caus--ed a monument to be erected in honour of his friend on the spot where he died. The Saranghar Raja Wishwanath Sai promis--ed to protect the tomb for which Hastings presented him with an elephant.[2] The friendly act earned for the Raja the envy and the enmity of the neighbouring chiefs.

After the loss of the leader the party proceeded -

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1. Sixth Report of Committee of Secrecy, App.p.143.
2. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.58.

through Sambalpur territory into that of Bimbaji's in - Chhutteesgarh. On the 29th September a party from Ruttanpur invited them to the Chhutteesgarh Capital. On their way to Ruttunpur, Robert Farquhar died at Mohra, a village on the banks of the Kahgrun river on the 15th October.[1] The Deputation then reached Ruttunpur on the 17th instant where they were - well treated and ceremonial visits were interchanged with - Bimbaji. From Ruttunpur the party moved to Maro which was - reached on the 26th, they were received by Muhomad Ali[2] a - Nagpur Officer who had come with an escort of cavalry to -- conduct them to Mudhoji's Capital, on the 1st of November. Then by the way of Lanji, Terora, Tharsa and Kanhan they -- reached Nagpur on the 14th November. At Kanhan they learnt from Beni Ram Pandit the Raja's Vakil to Calcutta, that -- Pondicherry was taken, Colonel Leslie was dead and Colonel Coddard having taken up the command of the Bundelkhund detach--ment was moving towards Nagpur. The party was unable to enter into any negotiations with the Raja, still they stayed in - Nagpur till the 12th of December when they proceeded through Saoner, Pandurna, Multai, Betul and Shahpur to the English - Camp of Goddard at Hoshangabad.[3]

1778 A.D. The Governor General now entrusted the affairs of the Deputation of the late Elliot to Colonel Goddard at Hoshangabad.

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1. Wills, History of the Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.60.
2. Colebrooke gives a very pleasing description of this -- venerable old gentleman (Early European Travellers, p.206-7).
3. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.59-61.

That commander deputed Lieutenant Daniel Watherston to start the preliminary negotiations. Watherston came to Nagpur on the 19th December 1778 A.D. From the despatches of ----- Watherston reporting his negotiations with the Court of -- Nagpur we learn that Hastings proposals to the Nagpur Regent were not acceptable at all. In one of his despatches he -- wrote "I can assure you as you will plainly perceive by their letters now writing you on the subject, that they are --- determined not to take any ~~active~~ active part whatever with our armies. They have a thousand arguments to oppose to -- those I urged in favour of the plan for assuming the dignity of Raja of Satara ..... They say they have sworn an - alliance of friendship with the present Peshwa Pandit ---- Pradhan Madhav Rao which they cannot violate; and add that their asserting their pretension to sovereignity will meet with numberless oppositions".[1]

The Raja's minister Devakur Pundit now a very - influential man in the kingdom thought such a project --- "contrary to every consideration of prudence and policy". To the Nagpur marathas the political policy of the English appeared suspicious. They were surprised at the Bombay -- Government's actions against Poona in favour of Raghoba.[2]

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, pp.61-62.
2. Ibdd, p.63.
   Watherston's Despatches are quoted in the Sixth Report of Committee of Secrecy, App.170.

However Watherston may have explained to them that the - Bombay Government had disobeyed instructions, and were --- carrying on a policy independent of the Calcutta government they could not "believe that the conflict in the views of the two governments was a genuine conflict and doubtless - regarded Hastings' advances as mere political deception". Any way to them the English support of two independent -- persons for the leadership of the marathas was sufficient deception to cause the breaking off, of all negotiations for an alliance.[1]

Here we must admit with Mr.Wills that Hastings gauged wrongly the importance and the strength of the --- Nagpur Raja. He describes him as "the most powerful of the chiefs who bear the maratha name, who holds his possessions in his own right and independent of the government of the Peshwa even by the confession of the members of that --- administration". In fact Mudhoji was not the most powerful of the maratha chiefs. His revenue and his military ---- strength was computed much lower than it was in the time - of Rughuji or Janoji.[2] Whilst by 1778 chiefs like Sindia - and Gaekwar were equally strong if not stronger than the - Nagpur Raja. A Raja like Mudhoji who failed to subjugate

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.64.
2. Ibid, p.64,07.

to his authority, the possessions of Hoshangabad and Garha -- Mandla, to which he had legal claims, from minor chiefs like the Nawab of Bhopal and the Raj-Gond ruler who had seized Garha - Mandla, must have declined in military strength.[1]

Another factor which Hastings failed to take into - consideration, in regard to the Raja of Nagpur was the ascendancy of the Brahmin influence at his Court, under the able -- Devakur Pundit his Diwan. It was quite natural for Devakur -- Pundit, to oppose Hastings plans for Mudhoji which ultimately intended eliminating the Brahmin power at Poona. Being a person of considerable influence at the Nagpur Court, Devakur's opinions and desires were often followed to the letter.

Besides Hastings' plan of the restoration of ---- Kshtriya domination at Poona and Satara was also based on -- wrong information obtained, about the relationship between the two Bhonsle Houses of Nagpur and of Satara? Even the belief - that Mudhoji had a right to the maratha leadership, because of his supposed adoption by Shahu was wrong.

Taking these mistakes into consideration, combined with the unhappy management of the affairs at Bombay, prevented for the time being, the English company from securing a close - alliance with the Nagpur Raja. However the relationship ----

1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.113-14.
2. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, ii.p.98.
   Except the relationship ~~ex~~ by marriage with the family of- Raja Shahu's wife the Bhonsles of Nagpur could not claim another connection with the Bhonsle House of Satara.

between these two powers still remained cordial, which lend a hope for an alliance in the future as soon as Mudhoji's old - faith in the English was restored. Watherston left for ---- Hoshangabad on the 1st January 1779 A.D. with presents for -- Goddard.[1]

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.66.

THE CONFEDERACY AGAINST THE ENGLISH - THE NEGOTIATIONS OF DAVID ANDERSON.

1779 A.D. The misguided politics of the Bombay Government had placed the Company into a quandary. The inglorious defeat at Wargaon, had lowered the English prestige in India. The urgent call for help from the Bombay authorities made -- Colonel Goddard hasten to their support in Surat. Hastings hoped that Bombay's failure to advance Raghunath Rao's ---- pretensions, would encourage Mudhoji to believe in the offer of the Calcutta Government. But Mudhoji's suspicions had not been allayed because of the reverse at Wargaon.[1]

However Mudhoji kept up a temporizing policy,- until, in the September of 1779 Colonel Goddard wrote to the supreme Government that Mudhoji's attitude gave no grounds to suppose that any definite agreement could be soon reached -- between the two powers and hence the negotiations should be suspended.

Hardly had a few days elapsed, when Goddard -- informed the Bombay Government on the 30th of the same month that he had obtained a diligence of a general-wide confederacy afoot to crush the English power in India.[2] Goddard's news was

1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, pp.67-68.
   Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, II, pp.99-102.
2. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.68.

confirmed when Bombay received a despatch from Hastings --- relating about the same threatening formation of native powers against the English. The confederacy included the united --- might of the marathas under the Poona ~~minn~~ ministers,Mudhoji - Bhonsle and Sindhia and of the mahomedans under the Nizam --- and Hyder Ali of Mysore. They were to attack simultaneously the ~~Eg~~ English on their different fronts. The Nizam was to - concentrate on the Sarkar of Chicacole and Hyder was to cross the eastern ghats and lay waste the Carnatic. To Mudhoji --- Bhonsle fell the attack on Bengal whilst the Poona Government busy against Bombay were also to subsidise other powers.[1]

Fortunately for the English Company Mudhoji ----- Bhonsle had no desire to actually prosecute a war against the English. It was because of his timely confirmation of the information of the --- formation of such an organisation that enabled Hastings to get prepared for action. Mudhoji had informed also that he had -- been forced to enter the confederacy because he feared the --- hostility of the Nizam and the Poona ministers. However he - assured the Governor-General that his forces will play quite a passive part throughout the war.[2]

In accordance with his agreement with the powers of the Confederacy Mudhoji Bhonsle despatched his second son ----

1. Wills,The Nagpur State in the 18th Century,pp.68-69. ~~Forrest~~ Forrest,Selections from the State Papers of -- Governors-General of India,Warren Hastings,II,p.200.
2. Ibid, Vol.II,p.200.

Chimnaji with a force of 30 to 40000 horse to Bengal. Chimnaji left Nagpur on the day of the Dussera in the month of September or October 1779.[1] The plans laid out by the --- confederates had desired that Chimnaji's force was to enter Bihar before moving into Bengal. But instead the young --- prince moved by a different route and travelled by such easy stages that he reached Cuttack in the month of May 1780. And finding the on-coming rainy season a suitable pretext to lay down the arms Chimnaji decided causing a hault to his movement into Bengal.[2]

1781 A.D. In the meanwhile Hyder Ali was zealously ---- carrying out his part of the contract towards the confederacy. The Madras Government was placed in ~~the~~ sore strait and it -- called on the Bengal authority to send an early help. Hastings had prepared a force placed under one Colonel Pearse to send to Madras. But he had not yet obtained the sanction from -- Mudhoji to allow the contingent a safe passage through Orissa.[3]

In the early stages of the war when Hyder Ali - was moving fast against Madras, Hastings had thought it wise, to somehow ~~xxr~~ protract the extensive English front of action. He had the sympathy and support of Mudhoji Bhonsle which he - decided to utilise to alienate the other marathas from the - confederacy. Mudhoji had always professed a willingness to - bring about a friendly alliance between the Company and the -

1.Wills,The Nagpur State in the 18th Century,p.69.
Banerji,Orissa,II,p.201.
2.Forrest,Selections of State Papers,~~of~~ Warren Hastings,II,p.201.
3.Wills,The Nagpur State in the 18th Century,pp.70-71.

Poona Court. And the Poona ministers had always shown an - extreme aversion to Hyder Ali's pretensions in the Southern districts of the Deccan. So with the consent of his council Hastings drew up the terms of an agreement to be proposed to the Poona.Court through the agency of Mudhoji.[1] When the ----- proposals reached Mudhoji he and his Diwan disagreed with - many of the terms which they thought would never be acceptable to the Poona ministers. In reply to the Governor General -- the Raja sent in January 1781 his various objections to the proposals which removed all hopes of an immediate understanding with Poona. Besides Mudhoji had pressed for certain benefits for himself which instilled doubts in the mind of Hastings as to his sincerity of purpose.[2]

The Governor General could no longer put off -- sending Colonel Pearse's detachment since the situation at - Madras had become more critical than before. He ordered that Pearse should proceed immediately and make his way through -- Orissa against all opposition. At the same time as a final - show of friendship Hastings despatched David Anderson to -- Chimnaji Bapu to prevent if possible a conflict between the - two armies by conciliating the young prince.[3]

1. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, II, pp.130-31.
   Forrest, Selections of State Papers, Warren Hastings, II, P.202.
2. Ibid, II, p.203.
   Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, pp.72-73.
3. Forrest, Selections of State Papers, Warren Hastings, II, p.204.

1st EMBASSY OF DAVID ANDERSON.

1781 A.D. David Anderson was one of Hastings' trusted junior officers. Leaving Calcutta Anderson arrived in Balasore on the 22nd January 1781 but found that Chimnaji had taken -- most of his force into the hills to reduce the fort of --- Dhenkanul. This was glad news to Anderson as it placed --- the route by which Pearse was to travel free of maratha -- troops.[1]

From Balasore Anderson wrote the first of a series of State Papers written between the Governors General and - his envoys which illustrate how the subordinates followed "the Diplomatic policy by which the States of India were - brought under British supremacy". The letter reported that the envoy was proceeding to Cuttack leaving Balasore on the 24th June with an escort from the Naib. He expected to -- find Bisumber Pundit there with Rajaram Pundit the Subahdar in the charge of the small force left behind by Chimnaji - when he moved to the hills.[2]

Reaching Cuttack Anderson learnt that the maratha army's line of communication with Nagpur was disturbed by the insubordination of the Raja of Sambulpur and consequently with the monetory difficulties it was in a distressed state.[3]

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, pp.73-74.
2. Forrest, Selection of State Papers, Warren Hastings, II, pp.207-208.
3. Banerji, Orissa, II, p.202.

He opened negotiations with Manoji Ram (Mudhoji's Farnavis) and Hirderam Pundit the Diwan acting for Rajaram the ----- subahdar. Along with that he tried to get in touch with - Chimnaji, who was some 30 to 40 cos away, but unfortunately the Hircaras returned with his messages undelivered.[1]

In response to his requests for help, and a safe - passage for Pearse's detachment, the maratha officials --- declared that the granting of such a convenience would mean, courting the wrath of the Poona Government. Still they ---- professed utmost friendship and kept hesitating, till, eventually they agreed to grant the request, if their prince and his Diwan gave them sanction about which they were not ---- doubtful.[2] Having achieved his purpose Anderson directly -- returned to Calcutta.

In fact a short time afterwards when Chimnaji made his way back to the open country, he took steps to help --- Pearse with provisions and guides and assure his safe ---- passage.[3]

Being emboldened by Anderson's success, Hastings -- decided on sending him again to Cuttack, this time to negotiate a permanent alliance with Chimnaji, independent of Mudhoji.

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1. Forrest, Selection of State Papers, Warren Hastings, II, pp. 211-12.
   Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.74.
2. Forrest, Selection of State Papers, Warren Hastings, II, pp. 211-13.
3. Ibid, II, p.214.

Anderson had been ordered to sound Chimnaji about his future and propose to him the leadership of all marathas, because he was after Rughuji II, the true heir to his father's pretensions to the throne of Satara.[1] Besides Rughuji was not on friendly terms with Chimnaji, so it would be safe for the young prince to secure a position for himself during his father's life-time.[2]

2nd EMBASSY OF DAVID ANDERSON
1781 A.D.

This time Anderson found his task very difficult. His attempts to converse privately with the young prince -- failed. Chimnaji being only 17 years old, could not be --- approached except through his ministers. And when these - were sounded with Hastings proposals for Chimnaji, they --- argued that they could not even dream of any such attempt. When Anderson reported his recent negotiations, Hastings -- sent orders that he was to drop entirely the subject and was to concentrate now on definitely alienating Mudhoji Bhonsle from the Confederacy.[3] This sudden change of policy leads us to conclude, that when Hastings proposed the terms to Chimnaji

1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, pp.75-76. Banerji, Orissa, II, p.208.
2. Forrest, Selection of State Papers, Warren Hastings, II, pp. 218-19.
3. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.76.

he intended only to use a ruse, to sow a discord in the Bhonsle family. Having failed in x such a design, he decided winning - over the Nagpur Raja by a bribe.

Hastings in the despatch where, he made clear his policy to Anderson, warned his envoy that the marathas had at - the back of their mind, a desire to get a recognition of their old right to the chouth of Bengal from the English. But the Governor General had no intention ever to consent to grant -- such a right.[1] However if Anderson thought fit, he may use it - as the bait to lure them into an alliance, without committing - himself in any way.

To get a favourable reception to Anderson's ---- negotiations, Hastings suggested certain arguments to be placed before Chimnaji and the other ministers of Mudhoji.[2] Anderson - was to show them that Hyder Ali was an upstart, whose ambition was to rule all of southern and central India himself. His - move to drive away the English from India was to remove his -- strongest enemy so that he could deal with the lesser ones -- afterwards, with much ease. He hated the marathas as badly as the English and had by diplomatic moves, even now had secured - from the Poona marathas, lands yielding an annual revenue of 80

1. Forrest, Selection of State Papers, Warren Hastings, II, p.217.

2. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.76.

lakhs. As a member of the recent confederacy he had not -- remained a true ally because he had just obtained the ------ Emperor's Farman as Subahdar over the Deccan against the -- rights of the Nizam and the Peshwa. Consequently the friendship of such an evergrasping ruler would never be lasting or true. As for the other members of the confederacy Mudhoji have also to take into consideration their recent actions -- which clearly revealed them as untrue allies - The Nizam -- who was supposed to have invaded the Sarkars of Chicacole -- and etc. had not done so. Whilst the Peshwa had broken his - agreement with Mudhoji, entered into when Devakur Pundit --- visited Poona in 1779. The districts of Gurrah Mundlah --- granted as a reward, for the Nagpur Raja's support of the -- confederacy had not been awarded and neither was he helped - with money, for his expenses towards the army, sent against Bengal.[1]

These arguments coupled with the offer of a sum of 12 lakhs in addition to 3 lakhs already given to Chimnaji -- would Hastings thought induce the marathas not to employ -- their force against Bengal. Anderson was to stress the point, that the Governor General was anxious, that the propriety - of the terms, of an alliance, must be honourable for the marathas, which made

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1.Forrest,Selection of State Papers,Warren Hastings,Vol.II. Pp.220-223.

him offer the money, as a mere compensation for their trouble while remaining so long passive near Bengal.[1]

It was however to be made clear that the offer of money, had nothing to do with their claim of chouth which the Governor General considered false.[2]

Anderson having expounded his superior's arguments and won the ministers and the young prince to a favourable state of mind towards the British alliance, negotiations henceforth were concentrated on the question of money. The offer of 12 lakhs was treated as a mere mouthfull and two crores was considered a suitable compensation. Anderson was shown the poor state of the troops who, the officers alleged might turn desperate and start plundering in the neighbourhood and in Bengal.[3] Raja Ram Pundit trying to show what a lot of money had been expended on the army gave the following estimate of the yearly expenditure over an establishment of a 1000 horse.

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1. Forrest, Selection of State Papers, Warren Hastings, Vol.II P.243.

2. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.77.
   Forrest, Selection of State Papers, Warren Hastings, Vol.II. pp.231-32.

3. Ibid, p.230.

Pay of 1 Jamadar of 1000 horse	Rs.	25000
Pay of 100 Ahshandars at Rs. 1500 each	Rs.	150000
Pay of 5 Imtiazis @ Rs. 5000 each,.....	Rs.	25000
Pay of 500 Qurawals @ Rs. 500 each, ...	Rs.	250000
Pay of 400 Bahli drivers @ Rs. 400 each, ...	Rs.	160000
Pay of 5 Karkuns @ Rs. 1000 each, ...	Rs.	5000
The Total Cost	Rs.	615000[1]

Negotiations dragged on for some time over the settlement of the sum. The Maratha estimate was gradually - lowered to 50 lakhs, then on to 30 and 20 lakhs and lastly to an acceptance of 12 lakhs, provided the English promised to help them, secure a loan of 35 lakhs and confer presents on the Raja's ministers, to the extent of a lakh and over.[2] Even these last offers were not conceded to by the Governor-General, with whom the negotiations were henceforth carried on, since the coming of the Nagpur envoys to Calcutta, when they failed to

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1. Calendar of Persian Correspondence, IV, p.505, No.2069.
2. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.78.
   Forrest, Slection of State Papers, Warren Hastings, II, pp.240-3.

come to an understanding with Anderson,by the month of March 1781. After further communications for over a month, a final agreement was arrived at on the following terms.[1] The Company was to pay thirteen lakhs to Chimnaji, and assist him in secur--ing a loan of ten lakhs in Bengal.Chimnaji on his own was to withdraw from Orissa at once,and an efficient body of 2000 Mara--tha horse was to be supplied at the expense of the company,to support Colonel Pearse's ~~drat~~ detachment. The English were also to assist the Nagpur Raja, in his attempt to establish his claim over the possession of Garha Mandla.

The above agreement was only a preliminary to a -- permanent treaty to be concluded afterwards.[2] For the agreement no ratification was offered nor demanded,and even later when Mudhoji was to fully avow it, he could not do so,because Nana Farnavis threatened him with the direst punishment, for his secession from the confederacy and his allegiance to the Peshwa.

Hastings alienation of the Nagpur Raja from the ---- confederacy,was an impprtant achievement for the English Company. He saved Bihar and Bengal from further danger and with the -- resources in Bengal free for use elsewhere, he could send help to Madras and Bombay. He impressed on the other native powers that the English were strong enough to fight,even the united might of the Indian monarchies. Since the Governor-General knew how the

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1. Forrest, Selection of State Papers,Warren Hastings,Vol.II, pp.250-54.
   Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century,App."D",p.231.
2. Forrest,Selection of State Papers,Warren Hastings,II,pp.254-6.

Indian diplomacy worked, he was assured now on of the --- support of other powers in the future, because an Indian - state usually sided with the strongest power in the ---- country so that it could benefit by a share in the exploitation of a weaker one.

Since Mudhoji dared not enter into a permanent -- alliance with the English against the ~~x~~ wish of the Peshwa he wrote to the Governor General that he was willing to -- mediate again for an alliance between the Company and the - Peshwa. And then with the help of the Poona Government to create a general confederacy against Hyder. Towards this - end he had decided sending Devakur Pundit to Poona. Hastings wrote back to say that it would be wise to send Devakur to - him, for a previous consultation, before he left for Poona. The meeting was arranged to be held at Benares, but ------ unfortunately it could not be convened as the Pundit died, before he could undertake the journey.[1]

By the October of 1781 Mahdaji Sindia, offered to treat for the English with the Poona Court. Sindhia feared to lose all that he had recently gained, if the war was -- persistently carried on. Whilst if he succeeded in achieving a peace he could keep his advantages and become the -- friend of the powerful English.

1.Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century,pp.80-81.

1781-82 A.D. To Hastings Sindia's offer was quite welcome, but Mudhoji resented the favour which was shown to - Mahdaji. The Bhonsle wrote to Goddard that he was ready to make his best endeavours to secure peace with Poona and even to travel there himself if necessary.[1] The Governor - General when learnt of Mudhoji's letter to Goddard despatch--ed Charles Chapman as the English envoy to Nagpur to --- encourage the Raja in his efforts and also keep the friend--ly intercourse between the two States which had somehow slackened since the death of Devakar Pundit. Chapman -- reached Nagpur on the 22nd January 1782. He was however able to achieve nothing, because his despatch of the 14th March reports that the Raja had not succeeded so far to - terminate a peace and so had decided to go to Poona ---- personally to do something.[2]

Mr.Wills is doubtful whether Mudhoji did go to Poona, and even if he did the Raja failed to accomplish anything. Mahdaji Sindia's assuduous efforts however -- resulted in the Treaty of Salbai being drawn up on the - 17th May 1782. It was an informal arrangement but it - brought an end to the so called first Maratha War.[3]

1782-84 A.D. The delay in the formal ratification of the -

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1. Forrest, Selections from State Papers (1890), 3rd Vol.p.821
   Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.81.
2. Ibid, p.82.
3. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, 2, pp.159-60.

treaty gave Raja Mudhoji an opportunity to compete again with Mahdaji Sindia to the win the favours of the English. He proposed through Chapman that he will make attempts to obtain a formal - recognition of the treaty from the Poona Government. However - Mudhoji's half-hearted efforts resulted in a failure.[1]

In the meanwhile the Bhonsle was involved in a trouble with his Pathan Jagirdars of Berar. These, owing to the instiga--tion of the Nizam's Officers and their personal aversion to the Maratha yoke, had frequently come to grips with the Maratha army. Mudhoji had borne with their rebellious actions in the past - because he had ~~xx~~ either been busy with other important matters, or had not sufficient force to send against them. But now he - took drastic measures and crushed for ever further such attempts against the State.[2]

1784-85 A.D. MUDHOJI TRIES TO RETRIEVE SOME OF THE POLITICAL IMPORTANCE WHICH THE BHONSLE HAD LOST RECENTLY.

Since the last few years Mudhoji's political policy had in no manner strengthened or improved the condition of the Nagpur State. His friendship with the English was no doubt an important support ~~tm~~ to his Government but the lukewarm state of his -- relationship with the Peshwa's Court left his son's position - ~~xxxxx~~ open to future aggressions from the Nizam or Sindia. Therefore to win over the Poona Minister's complete support to

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1. Wikls, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.84.

2. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.116.

his Government he left for Poona in 1785 A.D.[1]

In Poona Mudhoji made his submission to Nana Farnavis, and entered into a fresh agreement on behalf of his son Rughoji subscribing implicitly to the terms entered into by the late - Janoji with Madhu Rao Peshwa in 1769 A.D. He particularly -- consented never to assist the English against the Poona Govern--ment and to help the Marathas in their expected War with -- Tippu Sultan of Mysore. For his submission and the detachment Mudhoji was going to furnish against Tippu, Nana Farnavis grant--ed him the district of Garha Mandla.[2]

The possession of the Garha Mandla districts would have enhanced greatly the strength of the Nagpur Rajas. But until - now they had failed to secure them. Mudhoji had made an attempt in 1776 A.D. but found the Raj-Gond Chief so strong that he - had discreetly made a peace by which he was to receive three - lakhs of rupees; which were never paid.[3] It was in 1779 when - Devakur Pundit agreed that his master would join the confederacy against the English that the Poona Government promised to grant the Nagpur Raja sunnuds for the Garha Mandla districts in the name of the second son of Mudhoji, Chimnaji. The grant was -- actually issued and the emblems of a sword and a horse with the title of Khunde Rao was bestowed on the young prince.[4] However later when Mudhoji's false movements were discovered the same

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.84.
2. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, 2, p.172.
3. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.100.
   Forster, A Sketch of the History of the Nagpur Branch of the Bhonsle Family, (11th April 1788).
4. Ibid.

districts were granted to Balaji Govind Bundele, the Chief of Kalpi who was the Peshwa's representative in Bundelkhund. Balaji after three years of War and intrigues, took possession of them and remitted a portion of the revenue to Poona.[1]

1785-88 A.D. According to the grant of the sunnuds in 1785 -- Mudhoji demanded that the Kalpi Chief should transfer the --- possession of Gurah Mundla to him. Bundele did not comply and Mudhoji carried on a lengthy correspondence with the Peshwa over his rights. The result of the negotiations was that the Peshwa ordered Balaji to evacuate the district. Balaji agreed to do so on condition that Mudhoji paid forty lakhs of rupees towards his expenses incurred, in reducing the districts to his authority. The sum of money was later reduced to 30 lakhs but the Bhonsle refused ~~kax~~ to pay from his own treasury and asked the Peshwa to reimburse Balaji from the subsidiary debt due to him, for the - expenses of the Berar army sent against Bengal. The Peshwa had agreed in 1779 to subsidise the Nagpur Raja with 60000 Rupees per month, for the detachment. Only two lakhs and forty thousand had so far been paid. This manner of adjustment was not agreeable to the Poona Government and shortly by the end of the war with - Tippu, the Peshwa stopped negotiations, over the matter.[2] Mudhoji was much annoyed and disgusted at the injustice shown to him and henceforth refused to have anything to do with the Poona Government.

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.100.
2. Forster, A Sketch of the History of the Nagpur Branch of the Bhonsle Family, (11th April 1788).

In lieu of his agreement of 1785, Mudhoji was called upon by the Nana to send a force to the support of the Poona army, against Tippu.[1] Nana had feared the growing power of Tippu and had been recently duped by the Sultan, when the Minister interceded for the Dessye of Nargund. Opportunity having been furnished by the end of the Year 1785, he sent a force under Hurry Punt Phurkey against the Sultan and accompanied the army himself. The army marched eastward to join the detachment of the Nagpur Raja under Mudhoji and his son Chimnaji.[2] The combined force then moved against Badamee.

After the taking of Badamee, the Nana returned to Poona and Mudhoji followed him by returning to Nagpur, leaving Chimnaji[3] with the greater part of his force. He however promised to return with reinforcement after Dussera. This he did not do because of his failure to secure Garha Mundla. Chimnaji remained with the Peshwa's army till May 1787.

From 1784-88 the relationship between Nagpur and Calcutta remained casual. By the 8th of February 1785 Warren Hastings had left India. Encouraged probably by it Sindia as the authority at Delhi put forward the claim of the Emperor for the tribute of Bengal. At the same time Mudhoji having just placed himself under the Poona authority was forced to press for his claim of the

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1. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, II, p.172.
2. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.116.
3. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, II, p.174.
   Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.100.

Chouth of Bengal. He was made to urge that the English payment to Chimnaji in 1781 was in lieu of the arrears of Chouth.[1]

In reply to the demand of Mudhoji, the new Governor General Macpherson stated that if such demands were repeat--ed, he would send an army to Nagpur, to plunder Mudhoji's territory in the real Maratha manner. The Bhonsle at once wrote a conciliatory letter, professing his friendship and declaring that he was helping the Peshwa to crush the -- English enemy Tippu Sultan.[2] Mudhoji made no further demand for the Chouth. For this letter Macpherson wrote to Mr.Malet the Bombay Agent ~~in~~ at Poona to pay extra attentions to the Nagpur Raja which raised that prince's importance and - scared Sindia.

1786 A.D. The Company sent Lord Cornwallis as the ----- Governor-General in the place of Macpherson in September 1786. After being in the office for a year, he found out that Tippu Sultan was the power to dread and frustrate if the growth of the English Power in India was to be secur--ed.[3] Since his peace with the Marathas and the Nizam in May of 1787 A.D. he had taken such offensive measures, to threaten the Company's ~~frontiers~~ frontiers that the - Governor-General inferred that the English would be soon

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1.Wills,The Nagpur State in the 18th Century,p.85.

2.Grant Duff,The History of the Marathas,II,p.184.

3.Ibid.

involved in a war with him.[1] As a measure of defence he asked the Home Government to allow him to enter into -- defensive alliances with the dissatisfied powers who had lately made an inglorious peace with the Sultan. To pave - his way for such alliances the Governor General made over- -tures to these powers and towards the close of1787 deputed George Forster a Civil Servant of on the Madras Staff to - the Court of Mudhoji Bhonsle.[2]

FORSTER'S EMBASSY - 1788 A.D.

Forster arrived in Nagpur on the 15th Januayy - 1788. In his intercourse with the Court he let it be known that he was only paying a friendly visit though the real aim of his mission was to contract the --- defensive alliance with Mudhoji if the Company was involved in a war with Tippu Sultan. The Raja took him at his word and nothing serious was discussed at their meetings.[3]

However the envoy sent valuable reports about - the State of Nagpur. From them we learn that Forster was not impressed by the power of the Raja. In one of his -- despatches he says "I do not perceive much benefit can accrue to the Company from a ny new connection with Mudhoji especial- -ly during the continuance of a Mysore Peace." Another -- despatch a very lengthy one sent on the 11th April 1788 -

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.86.

2. Ibid, pp.86-87.

3. Forrest, Selections of State Papers, Lord Connwallis. II, p.128-30.

informs us that "Mudhoji Bhonsle who is between 50 or 60 years of age is allowed tum to possess unquestioned courage, which is esteemed almost the only quality -- necessary to form an Asiatic soldier. He is of short -- stature but well formed, is active and he yet enjoys a vigorous health."[1]

Hardly a month had elapsed since Forster sent his despatch, when Mudhoji Bhonsle suddenly passed away on the 9th of May 1788[2] - The Regent was a man of mediocre ability with masterful ways which he employed forcefully and decisively when faced with opposition to his plans. He was considered of moderate temper though occasionally he flared into violent and cruel actions mostly to carry out his political aims. Towards the merchants and farmers with the other industrial workers his treatment was ---- subdued and at time benevolent.[3] His profuse generosity towards certain persons was in acute contrast to his - treacherous and cruel dealings of the rich whom he --- desired to rob. The rank cruelty and deceit he showed to Udepuri Gosain[4] in his attempt to get clear of the debt of 50 lakhs which he owed to the Gosain is an example of his infrequent tyranny. On the other hand he supported the -- pensioner Burhan Shah of Deogarh in a highly indulgent - manner.[5]

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, pp.88-89.
   Forster, A Sketch of the History of the Nagpur Branch of the Bhonsle Family, (11th April 1783).
2. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.116.
   Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.104.
   Grant Duff, The History of the Marathas, II, p.280.
3. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.88.
4. Ibid, p.89, Note 8.
5. Ibid, p.90.

Mudhoji did not prove himself a successful ruler. His over cautious political policy, supported by half-hearted measures, gained for his Government nothing new to add to its old territory. On the contrary, the Jagir of Darwa which had lapsed since the death of Sabaji and which had been promised to Mudhoji by the Nizam, was not allotted to him. In fact the financial and military state of the Nagpur Raja had sunk, and it was no longer considered a superior Indian State.

George Forster's estimate of Nagpur Revenue based on statements procured by him, in 1788, was 52 lakhs of rupees.[1] Whilst that of Rennell rose to over a crore; 84 lakhs from Nagpur territories and 24 lakhs from Cuttack.[2] The mean between these two extremes would not be a correct conjecture because that would be the sum that Janoji used to realise. So allowing for minor reduction in revenue collected in the old organised manner of Janoji, we can place the sum at about 70 lakhs of rupees as Mudhoji's annual revenue. By 1788 Mudhoji's army had been reduced to 11000 troops out of which 9000 were cavalry. Since 1787, after the Maratha-Mysore War Mudhoji had disbanded over 6000 cavalry, because his finances could not support a large army not in activity. To this regular force was added a big number of irregular fighting men lodged in forts.[3] The

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.96.
   Forster, A Sketch of the History of the Nagpur Branch of the Bhonsle Family, (11th April 1788).
2. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.97 Note 3.
3. Ibid, p.87 & 88.

artillery force of Nagpur was ill-conditioned and not well served. It was made up of about fifteen field - pieces of various calibre manufactured in the City of Nagpur by Indian artists. These cannons had been in the charge of a small band of Europeans two of whom were -- Englishmen, one a Frenchman and the rest were Portuguese.

The Regent on his death left behind three sons; Rughuji the titular prince; Chimnaji known also as - Khandoji and Maniya Bapu or Vyankoji. Chimnaji had been wholly given to a military career, was courageous and - enterprising. He had been adopted by his uncle Bimbaji of Ruttunpur but after that Chief's death in 1787, -- Chimnaji's attempts to obtain his father's consent to his succession was withheld, owing to Rughuji's objection, because he feared the adventurous spirit of his brother.[1] Vyankoji on the other hand was not gifted with any marked talent. He held the seal of the Diwan's office, as a -- nominal adjustment to secure for him certain revenue - for his maintenance.[2]

Besides his sons and his Diwan, Mudhoji was helped in his management of the Government by the Bakshi, who was entrusted with the affairs of the army; by a -- Munshi who conducted his Persian Correspondence; by a

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.92.
2. Ibid.

Chitnavis who managed negotiations in Marathi and another Officer who served as the State treasurer. Since the death of Devakur Pandit none other had held the office of the - Diwan which was nominally conferred on Vyankoji - Bhawani Kalu who was the Bakshi, was about seventy years old when the Regent died. He had been treated with much respect by Mudhoji who also took his advice in foreign and military - matters.[1] Probably since the death of Devakur he must have been addressed by Mudhoji as the Diwan though not enjoying that office - The office of the Munshi was in the hands of Bhawani Nagnath and old and experienced man of 80 years. Mudhoji seldom consulted him beyond his duties - And -- neither were the Chitnavis nor the Treasurer had a hand in the Durbar dealings - Saikh Muhomed Ali another venerable man was in charge of the Raja's household and served as the receiving Officer to foreign personalities. He was also the Magistrate in the City. It was only Jan Rao a very cunning man who could sway Mudhoji at times. He had pander--ed to the Regent's misdeeds and helped him in misappropriat--ing wealth.[2]

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, pp.92-93. Forster, A Sketch of the History of the Nagpur Bhonsle Family, (11th April 1788).

2. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, pp.94-95. Forster, A Sketch of the History of the Nagpur Bhonsle Family, (11th April 1788).

CHAPTER VI.

RUGHUJI II.

(BEFORE THE 1803 WAR).

1788 A.D. The Regent Mudhoji's death made Raja Rughuji an -- independent ruler of the Nagpur State. In 1788 Raja --- Rughuji was twenty-eight years old. Until then he was only a partner in the management of the country of Nagpur. He had nevertheless established a hidden influence in the -- government which often clashed with the designs of his -- father. The Regent however to avoid any rupture between -- them had yielded over important matter but was firm in ---- preventing the introduction of pernicious habits. The Raja did not have marked personal characteristics. He was not a good soldier and had not the ability to make a fully ----- successful civil ruler. He had a great weakness for wealth mixed with a mean parsimony. This drawback in his character brought him under the influence of unprincipled men[1] who by their crooked ways, hindered the other officers from perform--ing their duties towards the State.

Raja Rughuji began his rule over a territory --- which was bounded on the north by the Sher, a small river which ran for about 8 miles from the Village of Lakhnadon and divided the Nagpur territory from the possessions of --

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.91.

Balaji of Kalpi; on the east it extended to and included the districts of Ratanpur; on the south-east Sambalpur with the other petty independent chiefs separated it from Cuttack; on the south a space of about twenty miles lay between it and the river Godavari and this belonged to the Nizam; on the south-west it extended to the Subah of Nander; on the west with Berar, it skirted to the Godavari which formed its western boundary; on the north-west and a part of the north it bordered on Khandesh and Bhopal and the course of the Nurbudda.[1]

Rughuji Bhonsle shared the Nagpur territory with his two brothers. Chimnaji the adopted son of Bimbaji, was at last confirmed in his right to Chhuttees garh. Vyankoji was given Chanda and its dependencies.[2]

The first important event of Rughuji's rule was the departure of Forster the British envoy from Nagpur on the 10th February 1789. Lord Conrwallis recalled him because he found it unnecessary to expend money over an ambassador to the Court of Nagpur.[3] Forster had dispelled the illusion of the importance of the Nagpur ----

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.96.
2. Ibid, pp.92 & 104.
3. Ibid, p.104.

alliance. The Governor-General did not fear so much the power of the Bhonsle to do harm to them, as to Court a formal agreement of friendship. He knew that he could - retaliate by taking the possession of Orissa.This very same province, had caused a great deal of diplomatic - intercourse for its secession to the Company, but the Governor General realised, that the Raja was not willing to relinquish it for an adequate sum of money, and they had not a strip of land, to give in equitable exchange for it.[1] Consequently a renewal of the same question, - would lead to further diplomatic intercourse, ending with an unsettled final state. The recall of Forster, was -- therefore, a wise step to save further useless expendi--ture.

Following the departure of Forster, Raja Rughu--ji himself left for Poona, because of the urgent calls of the Nana.[2] He reached the Maratha Capital on the 23rd of March 1789 A.D. Nana Farnavis called Rughuji, to press - him to join the newly formed confederacy by the Peshwa with Sindia Holkar and the Nizam against Tippu Sultan of Mysore. Rughuji had no desire to get involved into a war at this stage. He made excuses to withdraw, and even showed an objection, to serve under any other except the Peshwa.[3] When Nana Farnavis brushed aside all of his objections, he ---

1.Wills,The Nagpur State in the 18th Century,p.105.
2.Ibid,p.106.
Jenkins,Report on the Nagpur Territories,p.117.
3.Grant Duff,The History of the Marathas,II,p,231.

secretly avowed to the minister, that he feared going on to this expedition, because of his brother Chimnaji's designs, on the Nagpur Musnud. The Nana absolved him -- from his duty, provided, he contributed ten lakhs of -- rupees, towards the expenses of the War.[1]

The Bhonsle having settled this affair of -- the confederacy, was confirmed in his titles and rights to the Nagpur possessions, agreeing again to furnish - 10000 horse, when ordered by the Peshwa.[2] On the 7th of May he left Poona.

Arriving in Nagpur he learnt ~~of~~ that his brother Chimnaji whom he had feared, had died suddenly. The -- young prince's death left the Muttunpur Gadi vacant - which the Raja soon filled it, by granting it to his other brother Vyankoji.[3]

1789-90 A.D. The end of the Year 1789 saw the British were involved in a war with Tippu. They had the support of - the Peshwa and the Nizam in their venture, but to further strengthen the combination, Cornwallis sent out Forster, to induce the Nagpur Raja to join them against Mysore.

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.106.
   Grant Duff, The History of the Marathas, II, p.231.
2. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.117.
   Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.106.
3. Grant Duff, The History of the Marathas, p.231.
   Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.108.

SECOND MISSION OF FORSTER.

Forster started on his mission on the 7th March 1890 A.D. with the detachment under -- Lieut-Col. Cokerell.[1] The account of his journey to Nagpur was kept in a journal written by one Leckie, one of his staff. Passing through Orissa Leckie - learnt that it was a poorly managed province.[2] Its - revenue of 22 lakhs of rupees, was mainly collected, from Customs and taxes on pilgrims visiting the - Jagganath Pagoda. Out of the 22 lakhs, deducting the military and other expenses, 10 lakhs were sent to Nagpur. There was very little metallic money in circulation and rents were paid in couries(shells).[3]

From Cuttack province taking the route along the river Mahnadi the party of Forster reached the Barmul Pass. The Barmul Zemindar had made himself - independent. His right over the tract known as the Daspalla was recognised by Rughuji on condition that he allowed free access through the Pass to the -- Nagpur subjects.[4] From Barmul they proceeded to Sonpur where the minor Raja Pirit Sing gave them friendly reception, and his Diwan complained, about the ---

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1. Imperial Records, Political Letters to the Directors, III, p.488 (App.B.40).
2. Hunter, Orissa, II, pp.32-33.
3. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, pp.107-8.
4. Ibid, p.108.

licentiousness of the Maratha force stationed there, under Banduji the nephew of Mahiput Rao the Governor of Raipur. The Diwan requested Forster to intercede for their ---- grievances to the Raja.[1]

Reaching Raipur on the 18th of May Leckie describes it as a large town, inhabited by wealthy merchants and a -- good number of people. The inhabitants were called the - Uriyas or the natives of Orissa. They were brave and -- fierce fighters who hated the Marathas. They carried bows and arrows with a naked sword.[2] The Raipur revenue was -- 75000 Rupees. and that of the whole of Chhutteesgarh had dropped to 150000 Rupees, from what Bimbaji used to realise in the beginning; which was 5 to 6 lakhs of rupees. The - districts grew mostly rice.[3]

From Ruttunpur Forster's party moved to Nagpur, which was reached on the 3rd June,after a journey of a - month and fourteen days. When Forster opened his negotia- -tions with the Court of Nagpur the important personalities of the Raja's Durbar were his brother Maniya Bapu;Shridhur Pandit the Munshi; Bhawani Kalu the Diwan and his nephew - Pandurang the Commander and Paymaster of the army; and last Mahdaji Lashkari the Raja's confidant a man who was - always consulted by him.[4] On the 15th June the envoy secured

1.Wills,The Nagpur State in the 18th Century,p.109.
2.European Travvelers in the Nagpur,pp.81-82.
3.Ibid,pp.66-67.
4.Wills,The Nagpur State in the 18th Century,p.111.
European Travellers in Nagpur,p.73.

an interview with the Raja and broached the subject of his embassy. Rughuji in the temporizing manner of his - father, replied that he had been already invited by the Peshwa and the Nizam to joing them against Tippu, but had waited, before plunging into a war, to find out what part he was supposed to play in it. However he was willing to offer 8000 of his cavalry to the Company, provided they paid 400 Rs, yearly for each horse, and arranged to keep the matter an absolute secret from the Poona Government. Forster rejected the offer, considering the price of the horse too high for his government. At the same time with a show of friendship thanked the the Raja for his voluntary help. The Governor General's despatch to Forster desired - an explanation of the reluctance shown by Rughuji to join them against Tippu.[2] When the envoy made the enquiry for his master, he learnt that the Raja avoided undergoing an expenditure on this occasion, because he saw that the -- theatre of the war was so remote, as to prevent him

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1. Imperial Records, Political Letters to the Directors, III, p.488.(App.B.40).
   Imperial Records, Political Proceedings, Foreign Department, Secret Consultation, 23rd July 1790, No.5 & 14th July 1890, No.14.

2. Imperial Records, Political Proceedings, Foreign Department, Secret Consultations, 23rd July 1790, No.5.

making any appreciable gain out of the adventure. He could be only induced to plunge in it, if the Peshwa would grant him the long withheld possession of Gurha - Mandla. If the Company wanted his help, then, they must secure for him the transfer of those districts.[1]

But unfortunately for Raja Rughuji, shortly after the Company's need for his assistance no longer prevailed and the -- Governor General made no attempts to get him Gurrah - Mandla. Forster's negotiations with the Court slackened and the envoy henceforth sent despatches describing the less important matters.

Forster had been ordered recently to remonstrate with the Raja over the Maratha troops depradations in the Midnapur district.[2] Rughuji Bhonsle on hearing the complaint despatched Mahdaji Hari to investigate into the trouble. Forster believed that it was only a pretence to soothe the indignant feelings of the English. The Raja's policy towards the management of Cuttack was a measure of non--interference, as long as the Subahdar regularly paid the stipulated revenue. Since recently however Raja Ram Pandit had failed to comply with the extra demands, and so Rughuji thought it imperative to send Mahdaji to secure the money

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.113.

2. Hunter, Orissa, II, pp.48-49.

and inspect and control Raja Ram's dealings in Cuttack. The envoy's advice to the Governor General was, that the Company should take into its own hands to curb such misdemeanours with a strong hand. The English authority need not fear the resentment of the Raja because Raghuji knew that he still had Cuttack because the English respected good faith and national treaties.[1]

A few months after despatching the above advice the envoy Forster died at Nagpur on the 5th January 1791A.D. He died a young man of thirty-nine. He had an interesting and an adventurous career which is remembered even now because he was "the first English traveller who made an overland route from India to Europe."[2] Forster's remains received all the necessary forms of ceremony attached to a Christian funeral. He was buried close to the Neg river from which spot owing to the erosion of the bank his tomb was moved on the 6th March 1915 to the Presidency Protestant Cemetery where it now stands. Lieutenant James Davidson who was in charge of his escort took over the control of his duties till another person was sent out to perform them.[3]

Davidson was later recalled because the Governor General had no intention of sending another envoy to the Nagpur Court. Besides he did not expect any hostility in

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.114-116.
2. Ibid, p.116.
3. Ibid.

in the near future from the Poona Marathas or the Nizam because of the recent treaty which stabilised their rela-tionship for some time.

1791-94 A.D. From 1791 to 1794 the correspondence between the Company and Rughuji Bhonsle was very slight. Except for a few letters exchanged in 1792-3 over the trouble Company had in regard to the Zemindars of Surguja and Nuwagarh[1] intercourse between ~~consisted~~ them consisted only on an interchange of occasional civilities - In regard to the complaints made by the Governor General in June 1792 about the misbehaviour of the Surguja Zemindar and that of Nuwagarh Rughuji at once - sent warning letters to the refractory chiefs, threatening to punish them if they repeated such offences.

By 1794 however the Bengal Government was much - gratified and encouraged by Rennells successful efforts[2] -

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1. Imperial Records, Political Proceedings, Foreign --- Department, Secret Consultations, 15th June 1792, No.5, 20th June 1792, No.16. 26th July 1793, No.17.

2. Early European Travellers in Nagpur, p.91.

which systematically completed the geographical survey of India. Thinking that the exploration of a route, through Berar Orissa and the Northern Sarkars, also valuable to - their political designs, they made a request to Rughuji - Bhonsle, to permit their men, to carry out such an enter--prise. As soon as the permission was obtained the govern--ment fitted out an expedition under Captain J.T.Blunt for the purpose.[1]

CAPTAIN BLUNT & HIS ACCOUNTS OF THE NAGPUR FEUDATORIES.

Blunt started from Chunargarh on 28th January -- 1795 with a party of a Jamadar and 30 sepoys. His course lay through Korea State across Chhutteesgarh, through - Kanker and the outlying parts of Chanda (i.e.Wairagarh & Sironcha) into the Hyderabad districts.[2]

The account of Blunt's travels give a description of the relations which existed between the Maratha government and some of its remoter feudatory and dependent States.

In Korea Blunt found that the Capital's fortress Sonhat was beseiged by a troop of Marathas under Gulab Khan

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.119. Early European Travellers in Nagpur, p.91.
2. Early European Travellers in Nagpur, p.110.

the Officer sent by the Subahdar of Chhutteesgarh. It appeared on enquiry that the Chauhan Raja Ram Garib had avoided paying the tribute of 200 Rs, since last five years. This sum had been agreed to by his early predecessor when the first Maratha Conqueror came against Korea - Gulab Khan having plundered and put to hardships the inhabitants they beseeched the Raja to surrender. A treaty was then entered into by which the Korea Chief agreed to pay Rs 2000; which sum could not be realised as the Raja was not able to pay even a rupee. Nevertheless he had to give instead five small Horses, 3 bullocks and a female buffalo.[1]

From Sonhat Blunt came to Pondi, in the -- Uprora Zemindari of the Bilaspur district. Here he learnt from a Bairagi, that the Gonds of the Pratabgarh and -- Lormi hills, were in open rebellion against the Marathas, since their attempt to subdue them. They moved in large - numbers, plundering and causing great suffering, to the -- inhabitants of the villages they passed through. Blunt's desire to move from Pondi due west to Amarkantak, was --- seriously opposed by the Baigagi, who enumerated the many dangers he would have to face, in the person of wild --- beasts, demons and the savage gonds.[2] Having no other -- course, by which he could carry out his wish, Blunt took

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1. Early European Travellers in Nagpur, pp.110-11.
2. Ibid, p.119.

the Bairagi's advice and with less hardship, moved through the western portion of Chhutteesgarh to Ruttunpur,where,the Subahdar Vithal Pandit informed him, that the State of Bastar, through which he had intended passing, to the eastern seacoast, was in a turmoil. The Raja had not paid the tribute for four or five years, and since the State was not entirely subdued by the Marathas, the Gonds often defied their authority. It was because they had continually plundered and harassed them, that the Raja had consented to recognise their suzerainty. The recent punishment meted out to the Korea Chief had -- induced the Bastar Raja to pay 5000 Rupees towards the -- arrears of the tribute.[1]

1795 A.D. When Blunt next entered Kanker from Chhutteesgarh, he had an ~~experience~~ even less favourable report of the --- conditions in Bastar. The Raja of Kanker related that Raja - Daryao Deo of Bastar was a treacherous and cruel man, who- had imprisoned his two brothers after blinding them, and made his third brother fly to Nagpur. Being powerful, because he had a great ~~deal of~~ tract of land which was divided into 48 purganahs, he carried out his rule as a cruel tyrant.[2] Blunt - was therefore advised not to go through Bastar, as his -- purwanah would be violated,if not by the Raja, directly, it would be through his instigation, by the Jaipur Chief. Thus

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1. Early European Trewellers in Nagpur,pp.133-34.

2. Wills,The Nagpur State in the 18th Century,pp.122-23.
Early European Travellers in Nagpur,pp.133-34.

forced to change his route, Blunt instead of cutting across to the sea coast, took the route to Wairagarh.

On his way he got a very cool and somewhat hostile reception from the Gond Chiefs of Panabaras and Malewara.[1] From Chauragarh he moved south, intending to penetrate -- Bastar and by way of Bhopalpatnam, to proceed to the -- coast, but was opposed by an armed force which made him retreat. He learnt that the country here was wild and - mountainous and the people mostly savage (both sexes -- going naked). Only Banjaras were permitted to enter the wilds, at great personal risk and hardship. The courage- -ous Banjaras had carried some civilisation to them, - through such commodities, like salt and sugar, which was bartered for forest produce. The Marathas were much in - debt to the spirit of the Banjaras, who had started such primitive methods of trade, which gradually made the -- savages realise the value of civilisation.[2]

From Wairagarh, taking a circuitous route to avoid Bastar, Blunt after a few adventures reached Rajah- --mundry in safety on the 24th of May 1795 A.D.

Blunt's accounts about the Maratha Government on the plains of Chhutteesgarh, Wairagarh and Chanda -

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1. Early European Travellers in Nagpur, pp.136-8.

2. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, pp.126-27. Early European Travellers in Nagpur, p.151 & 153.

with the flourishing state of agriculture in these - districts are very encouraging. According to him - Chhutteesgarh produced large quantities of wehat and vegetable oil such as linseed and palma Christi and - various kinds of pulse. Contrary to Leckie's report he writes that rice was not abundantly produced.@ The - districts bred cattle and mares of the Tattu type in numbers - As regards the Government it was well establish--ed under a Subahdar who had rented it from Nagpur and - rented it himself in small holdings for periods and for specific annual sums. The Subahdar only had trouble with the refractory Zemindars in the mountainous parts of the country.[1]

Similarly Wairagarh and Chanda were governed. These districts produced much of rice and less of pulse with some sugarcane. Numerous herds of the finest goats and sheeps were bred here.[2]

All these three districts carried on a good trade with the whole of Berar and the Sarkars. They exchanged - grains with cotton from Berar and passed the surplus cotton with grains to the Sarkars from where they received salt,- betel,cocoanuts and fine cloth.[3]

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, pp.127-30. Early European Travellers in Nagpur, pp.127-30; pp.200-3.
2. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, pp.133-4.
3. Early European Travellers in Nagpur, pp.139-41.

@. Colebrooke wrote in 1799 A.D. that "Chhutteesgarh exports to Nagpur rice and wheat" (Early European Travellers, pp.202-3).

RUGHUJI'S GROWTH INTO A SUPERIOR POWER.

1788-94 A.D. When Raja Rughuji began to rule in 1788 the Nagpur State had reduced to a second class - power. Rughuji was smarting under disadvantages, because of the loss of power and because he was now so dependent on the Peshwa, and considered a mere Chieftain by Sindia. His jealousy aroused,he set about finding means to enhance his power and make himself really independent. He studiously kept a friendly intercourse with the British and avoided taking any part in the confederacies -- organised against Tippu, because they brought him no gain. Against the interest of the Peshwa, he even entered into a treaty with the Nizam, to protect - himself if the Poona Government attempted destroy--ing him. [1]

In this manner Rughuji had intended -- preserving a balance of power with the other rulers. But unfortunately the death of Mahdaji Sindia in 1794, altered the political situation amongst the Marathas. Nana Farnavis for the Peshwa,was the sole and only head left, about whom was concentrated all

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1. Wills,The Nagpur State in the 18th Century,p.136.

strength. Rughuji had not the courage to disregard -- such a combination of his own countrymen. Besides - the Indian diplomatic instinct led him to the folds of a greater than him, from whom he could get protection and gain. His policy was now bound to change, because as soon as the Nana declared war against the Nizam, and ordered his assistance, Rughuji set aside his former -- treaty with the Nizam, and joined the Maratha force, at Ahmednagar, with a strong contingent under himself. His army consisted of 12000 horse, 6000 infantry and 15 - guns.[1]

The opposite armies met at Khurda(Kurdla). The Raja of Nagpur's position in the battle was in the -- right wing whilst the Peshwa with Parashram Bhau who was the leader of the Maratha army, were in the centre. Holkar helped the centre whilst Daulat Rao Sindia manag--ed the left wing. The battle was a great fiasco. The Marathas won a easy victory because chance dispersed the Nizam's huge force. Raja Rughuji's rockets and Sindia's artillery frightened the Hyderabad army away.[2] Out of - over two hundred thousand men who were employed in -- this battle scarcely 200 lost their lives though more - Muslims were killed.

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.137.
   Grant Duff, The History of the Marathas, II, p.245.
2. Grant Duff, The History of the Marathas, II, pp.246-48.
   Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.117.

1795 A.D. The Peace into which the Nizam entered - with Poona Court was independent to that in which, he made his agreements with the Bhonsle of Nagpur. By this other treaty with Rughuji the Nizam agreed, to grant him the parganahs of Lonar, Sindkher and - others on both sides of the Purna river which would bring him an annual revenue of three lakhs, in lieu of his claim to ghasdana in Gangthari[1] which was - estimated at 3½ lakhs. Besides the cession of -- territory, the Nizam consented to pay up the arrears due to Rughuji, to the amount of 29 lakhs of rupees, and respect the old custom of gathering his share of the revenue of Berar.[2]

Rughuji's interests with the Nana were now completely secured. He went to Poona and remained - there throughout the rains, when most of the other Marathas chiefs were also in or near the Capital. In Poona Rughuji raised some infantry, and procured muskets of inferior quality from Bombay. During his stay great honours were done to and bestowed on -- him. He obtained the permission to occupy -------

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1. Lyall, Gazetteer of Berar, p.170.
2. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.137.
   Grant Duff, The History of the Marathas, II, p.248.

Hoshangabad and received fresh sunuds for further - territory south of the Nurbudda, comprising with - other places Chauragarh, Bachai and Paloha in the modern Narsingpur district.[1]

Thus loaded with power and highly elated,-- Rughuji Bhonsle left Poona on the 17th October 1795 A.D. for Nagpur, going by the way of Koregaon and Basim.

THE TROUBLES IN POONA.

Eight days after Rughuji's departure from --- Poona, Sewai Madhu Rao the young Peshwa died owing to it is supposed from an accidental fall from the balcony of his residence.[2] There might be some truth to the ver--sion of suicide because the prince had grown up to a manhood, when the Indian princes are used to wielding

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1.Wills,The Nagpur State in the 18hh Century,p.138.
Jenkins,Report on the Nagpur Territories,p.117.
These had been granted by Balaji Baji Rao to Rughuji I in 1750 but the 12 districts of Chauragarh, Bachai, Paloha, Kangarh etc. had not been conquered because of Sindia's intervention and because some of the chiefs - there had made themselves independent after the Mogul Empire's decline.

2.Grant Duff, The History of the Marathas,II,p.254.

power, but instead he was treated as a nonentity and kept under severe tutelage of all powerful and -- ambitious Nana Farnavis.

The death of the Peshwas was directly a great blow to the supremacy enjoyed by Nana Farnavis. All his future plans received a rude shock. Soon he was made to fight intrigues all around him,which threatened to anni--hilate all his power. But the cunning and clever Nana - faced them all undaunted. In his sore need he had the - willing and ready support of Raghuji Bhonsle.[1] It took him some time after a struggle, packed with adventures and tribulations, before he could emerge again safe and strong more powerful than ever. Restored to his old -- supreme state,he did not forget his staunch ally Raghuji Bhonsle. For him he granted the long withheld sanction, to take possession of Garha Mandla[2] by force. For Raghu--ji's immediate expenses he gave him fifteen lakhs of rupees. And as regards the condition according to the previous treaties which asked him to furnish 3000 horse whenever ordered to do so, the Nana agreed to demand the force only in an emergency.[3]

In the Years 1796-97 when Nana Farhavis was

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1. Wills,The Nagpur State in the 18th Century,p.138. Jenkins,Report on the Nagpur Territories,p.118.
2. Vad,Selections from the Peshwas' Diaries,Baji Rao II, P.80,L.No.61.
3. Wills,The Nagpur State in the 18th Century,p.138.

fighting for his power at Poona, Rughuji Bhonsle made a distinct acquisition to his territories. Being secur--ed in his rights to it the Bhonsle sent a force under Vithal Pant to annex Hoshangabad and the other districts on the south of the Nurbudda adjoining to it. In the middle of March 1796 Hoshangabad was stormed and captured. Attempts against the other districts failed to bring in any success.[1]

1797-99 A.D. By the end of the 1797, having obtained a - further grant of territory, and the monetary help of - 15 lakhs from the Nana, Rughuji Bhonsle ventured again to establish his right over the Nurbudda districts, and those of Garha Mandla. In 1798 he sent a force against the Chief of Saugor, who refused to part with Garha - Mandla. The Bhonsle's army however, did not have a great difficulty in acquiring the open country and putting some petty posts under their authority.[2] Later in the following year when the same Chief was pressed hard with a large army of ~~xxx~~ marauders under Amir Khan he begged Rughuji to send him help to drive out these free booters. Rughuji graciously complied and their united forces soon cleared the Saugor territories of these pests. In gratitude the Chief surrendered the fort of Mandla and Tezgarh as the

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.118.
2. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.139.

price of the given aid. Thus in the end the much desired Garha Mandla was soon reduced completely to the authority of the Nagpur Government.[1]

799 A.D. The territories on the south bank of the Nurbudda in the neighbourhood of Hoshangabad, were taken possession of in the same Year 1799 A.D. but earlier in the month of February. Dhamoni a fort not in Garha Mandla but attached to the Saugor principality, was ceded by a Lodhi Rajput, who had taken it from the Bundelas. All these fresh acquisi-tions to his territories, gave an added importance to his State. He had now only to settle these territories, to pay lucrative revenue, which would place the Bhonsle rule in Nagpur to the Zenith of its prosperty.[2]

Since 1788 Raghuji had been particularly active, about raising the amount of his revenue. After ten years, it had steadily bettered itself and the Raja with his parsimonious ways, had been strict about expending it. He had accumulated a fair amount of wealth in addition to what his father had left him, even though Mudhoji's revenue was not encouraging. From the despatches of Colebrooke we obtain an estimate of the revenue which he easily puts it to a crore and a quarter of rupee net revenue raised from all

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.119.
   Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.139.
2. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.119.
   Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.139.

territories including the new annexations.[1]

1800 A.D. Making an inventory of the Raja of Nagpur's - possessions in the Year 1800 A.D. we find the following directly under his management.

1. Deogarh and its dependencies which included the Jagirs of Chhindwara and the Zamindaris of -- Bhandara and Balaghat with them followed the Seoni Jagirdar and Khalanti Zamindars of -- Khairagarh Nandgaon, Chhuikhadan etc.

2. Garha Mandla districts.

3. Hoshangabad (with Seoni-Malwa) and Chauragarh, Bachai, Paloha Ramgarh etc.

4. Multai district which comprised roughly the present Betul district plus a portion of the - present Hoshangabad district.

5. Gawilgarh and Narnala forts and their dependent districts.

6. Orissa and its dependencies, which was made up of feudatory States chiefly Morbhanj,Keunjhar Dhenkanal, Angul and Daspalla.[2]

7. Over the remaining the Raja had the right of the

1.Nagpur Residency Records,I,L.No.28.(1st October 1799).
2.Wills,The Nagpur State in the 18th Century,pp.140-45.

overlord with the revenue going to his brother Vyankoji. These were Chanda and Chhutteesgarh with the feudatories of Sambalpur,Surguja,Bastar, Kankar and Kalahandi.

8. Lastly the Raja had a partisan claim to Berar - which fetched him about 30 lakhs of rupees.[1]

THE BRITISH RELATION WITH THE COURT OF NAGPUR.

1793-1802 A.D. The British position in India during the term of 1793-98 had lost a little of its importance. The policy of the Governor General Sir John Shore - since 1793, had been scrupulously that of non-interfe--rence into the affairs of the native powers of India. But this political method had resulted in grave --- consequences ~~the~~ to the recognised superiority of the British rule. When the Governor General refused to help the Nizam, against the united might of the Marathas,he helped to create two strong powers in the person of - Raghuji Bhonsle and Daulat Rao Sindia. The latter of whom, by his encouragement to frenchmen at his Court, had raised again a rival European menace to the ~~highest~~ English in India. The same French influence,had helped

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1.Wills,The Nagpur State in the 18th Century,pp.145-46.

also to the growth of Tippu Sultan to a certain - extent.

Consequently, the coming to India of a man like Richard Wellesley as the Governor-General in May 1798[1] made an essential change, in the prosecution of the future British policy. Marquis of Wellesley was a man - of pugnacious and acquisitive temper. He saw that the only hope which lay for the British possession in India to endure, was in its becoming the paramount power in the Country. With this aim in view he began his admini- -stration by preparations, to break the overgrown power of the Sultan of Mysore. Along with his activities, - towards fitting out an efficient army to fight Tippu, he opened negotiations with other native powers like the Nizam, the Peshwa and the Nagpur Raja for their support in his enterprise.

COLEBROOKE'S EMBASSY TO NAGPUR.

Wellesley despatched Henry Thomas Colebrooke, -the famous orientalist who had come to India in 1783 - A.D., now to the Court of Nagpur. He reached the ----- Bhonsle's Capital on the 18th March 1799 A.D.[2] He opened

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.153.
2. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Consultation, 15th April 1799, No.18 (App.B.3).

the negotiations with a request to the Raja to join the British against Tippu. Raghuji was to enter into an -- alliance, which was to be part of the ~~sy~~ supposed one already existing between the Company, the Peshwa and the Nizam. The Raja was quite willing to enter into an agree--ment with the British in the beginning, but he demurred on the quadruple alliance and desired an independent treaty. But later when he was explained the complications, which such an agreement would lead him into, with the Peshwa - and the Nizam, the Raja desired to be given some time to think over the terms of the Joint treaty.[1] Colebrooke had stressed that the aim of the quadruple alliance was "a -- reciprocal guarantee of the possession of the contracting parties including the rights of ~~thir~~ their allies so that in case of aggression by an enemy of the allied States - they would all ~~exp~~ cooperate to repel the enemy."[2]

During the time these negotiations were in --- progress the English army sent against Tippu had achiev--ed marked successes. To the Marathas in Poona these -- successes spelled some danger for themselves, because - they feared the strength of the English and more so now, because they could so easily and fast carry on the ---- destruction of the redoubtable Tippu Sultan.[3] They promptly

1. Nagpur Residency Records, I, L.No.7, (App.A.I)
2. Ibid, L.No.10, (App.A.2)
3. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.154.

withheld sending the promised contingent of Maratha troops.[1] In fact within a few months afterwards, - their policy towards the Company showed signs of - hostility, which was due in a measure to the strong influence of Sindia at Poona.

Having lost the support of Poona, the Governor General's plans had to be revised. Wellesley henceforth concentrated on nullifying Sindia's influence on the - Marathas; particularly on the Peshwa. Colebrooke was so ordered to induce Raghuji Bhonsle to enter into an alliance with the British and the Nizam against -- Sindia. The envoy was advised that the Raja must not know that Sindia had the support of the Peshwa. Colebrooke writing in May 1799 says that to him it appeared that - the Raja was ignorant, of what the Peshwa and Sindia -- were designing. Raghuji was on the contrary amazed -- that Sindia would dare to be hostile to the British, -- when he was busily involved with domestic trouble, instigated by Pursram Bhau.[2] However the Bhonsle wanted to know what the Peshwa thought of Sindia's presumption. The envoy evaded answering such an inquiry which result--ed in the Bhonsle flatly refusing to ~~invite~~ unite -- against a member of the confederacy[3] without the Peshwa's

1. Proceedings & Meetings, Historical Records Commission held at Nagpur, XI, p.63.
2. Nagpur Residency Records, I, L.No.13 & 18 (Apn.A.3)
3. Proceedings & Meetings, Historical Records Commission held at Nagpur, XI, p.63.

consent.

The death of Tippu on the 2nd May 1799 left the British masters of Mysore.[1] The Nizam had also joined them. Their power was much formidable than before. The Peshwa and the Sindia discovered that comparatively, they were now weaker to the British and their allies. Their only safety lay in nullifying some of this overgrown power. About the beginning of August, Colebrooke was informed, that the Peshwa and the Sindia had decided, to force the Nizam to leave the British partnership.[2]

1799 A.D. Such a design frightened the Nagpur Raja because he feared that his own turn would follow, after Sindia had has done with the Nizam. Raghuji was never on good terms with Sindia and had always supported Nana Farnavis. The dread of an invasion by Sindia, gave a chance to Colebrooke to what obtain the Raja's consent to a defensive alliance, but the fright soon lost its force when the Peshwa sent the Bhonsle a very friendly letter.[3] Thus again the negotiations for an alliance flagged.

1800 A.D. A few months afterwards the Raja heard with a shock that his best friend Nana Furnavis had passed away, on the 13th March 1800.[4] Poona was soon plunged into a Civil War by

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.154.
2. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Consultations, 3rd June 1801, Nos.45-48. [App.B.5]
   Nagpur Residency Records, I, L.NO.24.
3. Ibid, L.Nos.27 & 29.
4. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.154.

by the Sindia.[1] The Peshwa played the part of a mere - puppet. Thus Colebrooke was offered another opportunity for an alliance, but this time Wellesley desired that the Raja must enter a subsidiary alliance which enforced, that he must support a local British force in his Capital for his safety. In payment towards the contingent's expen- ses" he shall place such part of the province of Cuttack as should be adequate to the purpose, and shall place - under the management of the Company such a tract of - territory as should establish the continuity of their -- dominions from Bengal to the Northern Circars."[2] Whatever importance Raghuji attached to the British alliance he - was not completely a weakling to consent to such an -- alliance. But being a shrewd man he evaded giving a -- definite negative reply. He wanted to keep the British - envoy at his Court as long as he could, to give an ---- importance to his position. Colebrooke not a thorough - diplomat failed to see through him.[3] Later when the Raja heard that Sindia was sending him his Vakil he no longer felt the need of an English support under the enforced conditions.[4]

Not long afterwards, Sindia left Poona to chastise Holkar, which gave an opportunity to the Peshwa

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1. Nagpur Residency Records, I,L.No.43.(App.A.10)
2. Ibid.
3. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.154.& 156.
4. Nagpur Residency Records, I,L.No.55.

to reinstate his authority in the Capital, with the help of the Bhonsle and the other Maratha Officers. Rughuji made a willing response to the Peshwa's request for help, by informing him that he would be sending - Shridhar Pandit and Krishna Rao to arrange a plan in - concert with the Peshwa, to thwart the future aggres- -sions of Sindia.[1] Simultaneously Rughuji realised, if that if he secured also the help of the English for - the Peshwa, he could get better terms for an alliance himself, and earn the gratitude of the Peshwa.[2] But - before the Bhonsle would open negotiations with the - British envoy towards this aim, he wanted to be inform- -ed how the Peshwa considered his plans. On the 20th - October he was disappointed to learn that the Peshwa did not agree to the proposals. He intended a reconci- -liation with Sindia.[3] This step of the Peshwa left the Nagpur Raja again ina in a state of indecision. He was now on the look out, to unite with xx a strong power to secure his position from the aggrandisements of Sindia, the depradations of Holkar and probably some mischief from the Nizam. From the Poona Court he could not expect a ready support, because since the death of the Nana, that government had not the surplus military strength,

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1. Nagpur Residency Records, L.Nos.62 & 68 (App.A.12)
2. Ibid, I, L.No.68. (App.A.12).
3. Ibid, I, L.No.64.

which could be sent to the help of the allies of the Court. Raja Rughuji was therefore left with no alterna--tive but to accept the subsidiary alliance offered by the British or take his chances with the fortunes of the Peshwa.

The making of a final decision was however taken out of his hands, when the Company entered into an -- offensive and defensive alliance with the Court of Hydera--bad. The Raja and his ministers had studiously avoided - discussions on the proposals of the Subsidiary Alliance, but when they heard of the recent agreement with the Nizam, they had a busy discussion with Colebrooke, over the inten--tions of the Company.[1] Shridhar Pandit put searching -- questions and declared, that any misunderstanding resulting in hostilities between the Nizam and the Peshwa or the - Nizam and the Bhonsle would ultimately have lead into a - hostility also between the English and the other respective powers.[2] The agreement appeared to the Marathas a direct - union against them, and naturally they were forced to -- consider the defensive defence of their interests.[3]

Raja Rughuji henceforth was decided in his ----

1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.157.
2. Nagpur Residency Records, I, L.No.67.
3. Proceedings & Meetings, Historical Records Commission held at Nagpur, XI, p.[illegible].

aversion to the British alliance, which pressed on him a humiliation of a British force at his Capital. He might have been won over by some friendly terms or an offensive and defensive alliance like that of the Nizam, but the Governor General considering him only as a second class power was unflinching in his demands. To Wellesley a British force at Nagpur, would facilitate his policy of aggrandisement, but he failed to realise that the - Nagpur State of Rughuji's time, was not the same weak one of the time of Mudhoji or even of Janoji. In 1800 the Bhonsle Dynasty at Nagpur was more firmly establish--ed than ever, and had reached the pinnacle of its -- strength and prosperity.[1]

Rughuji's hope of a British alliance was no - longer feasible and so he was ready to listen to the - Peshwa and Sindia to consolidate more firmly the old - Maratha Confederacy.

The intercourse with Poona became more lively and by 21st March 1801 Colebrooke learnt that the Raja was sending within a few days Shridhar Pandit and ---

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1.Wills,The Nagpur State in the 18th Century,pp.159-60.

Krishna Rao to Poona.[1] A month afterwards by the end of April, Rughuji received an express from Poona which desir--ed that the Raja was to proceed to the Capital, to take - part in a meeting of the Maratha Chiefs, to decide on their future political policy.[2]

Colebrooke's despatch to the Governor General sent on the 4th May 1801 mentions, that he had reliable information, which said that the Marathas in Poona were busy concerting means, to destroy the British power in - India. The Bhonsle seemed to appear, quite pleased with their attempts, and though he had not openly declared to join them in their designs, he will probably meet the rest of the Marathas on the banks of the Godavary, on the -- pretence of attending a fair, which will be held there for some religious festival, on the last day of August next.[3] Colebrooke was convinced that the Raja had been -- simply evading him all these months and now there was no reason why a British Agent should reside at the Nagpur - Court.

The Governor-General was also convinced, that Raja Rughuji could not be induced to enter an alliance, all for British interest. He ordered Colebrooke's recall, which the envoy promptly obeyed, by leaving Nagpur on the

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1. Nagpur Residency Records, I, L.No.75 (App.A.13).
2. Ibid, I, L.No.84, (App.A.15).
3. Ibid, I, L.No.85, (App.A.16).

18th May 1801[1]. The parting was made with a show of -- friendliness from the Raja, but the Bhonsle's brother Vyankoji had warned Colebrooke of the Raja's insincerity. Vyankoji had lately suffered a personal restraint at the hands of Rughuji, and feared for his life. He had declar--ed to the British Agent, that he was safe ~~and~~ as long as the Raja was on good terms with the British, because he - could ask for their ~~xxxxion~~ intercession, for any -- injustice given to him. But if the British connection was broken, and Rughuji did as he liked, Vyankoji's and that of his son's life would be valueless.[2]

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, pp.157-59.

2. Nagpur Residency Records, I, L.No.81.(App.A.14).

THE CAUSES, EVENTS & RESULTS OF THE FAMOUS WAR OF 1803 BETWEEN THE MARATHAS & THE ENGLISH.

The policy of aggrandisement followed by Marquis Wellesley, won for the British, a great deal of disfavour from the native rulers, who were not directly related to them. The Governor-General's military strength had annihilated completely the power of Tippu and in his place now was raised a Hindu Sovereign, who had agreeed to the terms of the Subsidiary Alliance. The example of Mysore was followed by the Nizam in 1899, when he also consented to the terms of the same alliance. The Nawab of Oudh in 1801, and the Gaekwar of Baroda in 1802, acknowledged the supremacy of the British, and admitted British detachments[1] in their respective Capitals.

To the Marathas Chiefs except the Gaekwar, the terms offered by the Subsidiary Alliance, were deeply humiliating to their sense of independence. They hated to barter their most valuable possession, their----------

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century.P.165.

independence for permanent safety under the domination of the British Authority. From the very beginning when the new Governor-General moved the British force so - successfully against Tippu Sultan, the Marathas had - feared, ~~that~~ that soon their own independence will be threatened by the superior British power in India. The Peshwa and the Sindia had all the while thought of some way to minimise their strength, but they had been taken up so much by their own personal affairs, that - they could not concentrate completely against the -- English. By the end of 1802 the Governor-General had interfered so much into the Maratha affairs, that the Sindia and the Bhonsle, made efforts to give the --- Calcutta Government some opposition in their ambitious venture.

The Peshwas authority in Poona since the - death of Nana Furnavis in 1800 had been made subordinate to the influence of Daulat Rao Sindia. But Sindia was - not the only one who desired to sway the Government of Poona. Lately Jeswant Rao Holkar had made himself so - powerful, that he judged the Peshwa must put himself - under his guidance, or atleast give him a share of his favour with Sindia. Daulat Rao opposed all such -----

pretentions, and Jaswant Rao annoyed, and desirous -- of showing them his power, came in the vicinity of - Poona, with a large army. The joint army of the Peshwa -- and the Sindia came ~~xx~~ out to oppose him. The experienced Holkar soon defeated the Poona forces, which made the -- Peshwa fly from the Capital.[1] Holkar pursued him, and - Baji Rao fearing capture took shelter amongst the British at Bassein.[2]

The Peshwa's escape ruined Holkar's plans. His hope now lay in a new Peshwa on the Musmud of Poona, whom he could ~~xxxxxx~~ control. He made an offer to Amrut Rao, the adopted brother of Baji Rao, to accept the title; but Amrut Rao refused. Later when he was pressed further, Amrut Rao accepted the Gadi for his son Vinaek Rao.[3]

When Baji Rao at Bassein learned that the -- Holkar was raising a new Peshwa at Poona, he thought it -- imperative to do something quick, if he was to keep at all his powers. The rest of the Marathas had been called to - help him win back his Musnud, but they had failed to respond at once. So he decided in the end to seek the aid of the ---- British, which was offered only, if Baji Rao consented to agree to the Subsidiary Alliance. Having no other alterna- -tive than to acquise, he signed the famous Treaty of ---

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.166.
   William Kaye, Life & Correspondence of Lord Metcalfe, I, pp.121-22.
2. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, II, p.330.
3. Ibid.

Bassein[1] on 31st December 1802 which was shortly -- afterwards, to plunger the Marathas in a war with the British.

The other Marathas were infuriated at Baji - Rao's step. They called him a traitor to the Maratha - Confederacy, and being the head of the Confederacy, his action was considered more ignominious. The Bhonsle and Daulat Rao Sindia, who were never really on good terms with one another, decided to sink their differences,to unite against the common enemy. Sindia sent his ----- Prime Minister Jadun Rao Bhasker to Nagpur[2], to negotia- -te with the Bhonsle on the designs of the War with the Company.

In the meanwhile directly on the conclusion of the Treaty of Bassein, the British moved their forces to reinstate Baji Rao II on the Musmud of Poona. From the Northern Frontier of Madras, an army under Arthur ---- Wellesley afterwards the renowned Duke of Wellington, moved towards Poona. He was helped in the campaign by Colonel Stevenson, who commanded the Hyderabad Subsidi- -ary force. Wellesley had hardly[a] opposition from the - forces of Holkar. By April 1803 he had entered Poona

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.166.
   William Kaye, Life & Correspondence of Lord Metcalfe, I, p.122.
2. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, II, p.332.
   Smith, Oxford History of India, pp.596 & 599.

and in the following month placed Baji Rao again on the Peshwa's Gadi.[1]

The affairs of the Maratha Chiefs were still in an indecisive state. Sindia, as a preparation for a War had gathered a large army at Ujjain, and with it -- proceeded southward. He crossed the Nurbudda on the 4th of February 1803.[2] At Serowlah on the 6th April Jadun Rao informed him from Nagpur, that Rughuji Bhonsle was raising an army at Umraoti, with which he will proceed to join -- that of Sindia.[3] Daulat Rao then steadily advanced on the frontier of the Nagpur Nizam, to which the Governor ---- -General through his agent Collins raised an objection - and demanded that he should go back north of the Nurbudda, because the British considered his movement and his diploma- -tic intercourse, with the Bhonsle and the Holkar, against their interests. To the protestations of Collins, Daulat Rao Sindia in open Durbar declared, that he could not --- comply with the Governor-General's requests asking him to - retreat. As for the request to furnish an explanation for his diplomatic negotiations, the Resident will have to wait until he had conferred with Rughuji Bhonsle who was advancing to meet him. Rughuji reached the vicinity of Sindia's Camp - at Chikhli when he came to Malkapur on the 3rd June. On the [4]

1. William Kaye, Life & Correspondence of Lord Metcalfe, I, p.122.
2. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.167.
3. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Consultations, No.294. 9th May 1803 (App.B.8).
4. Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803, pp.153-54.

next day both the Chiefs had a formal meeting midway between Chikhli and Malkapur. Nothing serious was -- discussed except that Khunde Rao Holkar was delivered over to Rughuji Bhonsle.[1] Rughuji Bhonsle had been for some time past mediating to reconcile Daulat Rao Sindia and Juswant Rao Holkar. The intention of surrendering - his own son Khunde Rao to Holkar was to win him over - to their plans against the British.[2]

On the 8th of June Rughuji Bhonsle paid a - visit to Daulat Rao and both the Chiefs had a lengthy discussion over their immediate affairs. After their meeting, Collins sent his agent Ganpat Rao to demand of Sindia as to what decision the Maratha Chiefs had arriv- -ed at, against the British. Ganpat Rao failed to see - Sindia till the 10th instant because of the inclemency of the weather, which had also cut off the communication between the two Maratha Camps by overflowing the Soam river. The agent returned with a reply which said that Collins should pay a visit to Rughuji Bhonsle.[3] Collins complied, and had an audience with the Nagpur Raja on the 25th June. He was very cordially received. The --- meeting resulted in nothing important except that --- incidental remarks were made on the current affairs.

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1. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Consultations, 21st July 1803, Nos.1-4. (App.B.9).
2. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.167.
   Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803, p.88.
3. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Consultations, 21st July 1803, Nos.1-4, B.No.4 (App.B.12).
   Ibid, Consultation Nos.15-18, L.No.1. (App.B.13).

In the end when Collins wanted the Raja to express his intentions against the British, the Bhonsle evaded a reply and agreed to inform him after six days.[1]

During the few following days both the Maratha Chiefs moved their Camps nearer one another.[2] Six days afterwards Collins camped at Selore. Since the time had arrived to renew the demands for an explanation of their behaviour, Collins demanded a meeting. At the --- meeting however he was induced to wait for a few more days, though he had declared that he should not be - blamed if the British army which was already within - Sindia's frontier, should start hostilities, getting impatient at such uncalled for delay.[3] On the 4th May Collins was called to attend a Conference of the Rajas and their respective Ministers. Here Collins explained that the British ~~ruin~~ were not to blame for their --- interference in Maratha affairs, because it ~~wasxt~~ was the importunities of the Peshwa who had failed to get -the Maratha support, that made the British agree to help him. In these discussions Shridhar Pandit took a prominent part.[4] He asserted that the Peshwa had no -- right to enter into such an alliance, without consulting the other Maratha Chiefs. To which Collins replied that

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1. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Consulta--tions, 21st July 1803, Consultation No.19. (App.B.14).
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid, 11th August 1803, Consultations Nos.21-24, L.No.3. (App.B.15).
4. Ibid, 11th August 1803, Consultations Nos.25-26. (App.B.16).

the Peshwa could enter into an agreement without - referring to any one. In fact looking to the ~~history~~ history of the past, there was no precedent which showed that he must consult ~~the~~ all his subordinate chiefs in political matters of his own. The meeting lasted for a long time. Collins pressed his points, asking them to retreat with their army and demanding their definite - ~~opinion~~ opinion on the Treaty of Bassein. The Rajas made professions of friendship and good faith and ended by asking for more time. Collins seriously objected to - their alluding the issue, but the Rajas guaranteed to - send letters of good will and good faith to the General through him.[1]

The letters were sent after some delay on - the 9th instant.[2] The Maratha Rajas wasted some more days in the hope that Juswant Rao who was not far away would join them. Rughuji had entrusted Khunde Rao, to Ethoji Inglia and Siam Rao the agents of Holkar at Sindia,s - Court who immediately proceeded on the 9th July to their master.[3] Collins reported that some days back eight -- battalions of sepoys in the service of Ambaji Inglia - marched from the Deccan towards Hindustan under the --- leadership of one James Sheppard. This Contingent was to

1. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Consultations, 11th August 1803, Cons Nos. 25-26, (App.B.16). Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803, p.167.
2. Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803, p.168.
3. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Consultations, 11th August 1803, Cons. No. 30. (App.B.17).

-be stationed between Jahnsi and Kalpi.[1]

For some time past Collins had kept Arthur - Wellesley informed of the movements and meetings of the Marathas. And since the time Wellesley was given in July, the full authority by the Governor-General to act as the man on the spot,[2] the correspondence with Collins became more important. Wellesley had so far listened to Collins' negotiations with some patience, but by the 18th July he ordered that Sindia and Bhonsle must quickly retire to their respective Capitals or War will be declared on them.[3] Such peremptory orders made Collins demand from the Rajas an early retreat. The Rajas convened meetings where they explained, that they had assembled their armies within - their boundaries and had no intention to subvert the - Bassein Treaty. Collins in answer pointed out that Sindia had no enemy in the neighbourhood, on the contrary the - had left his Capital undefended and was wasting time and money, having gathered such a large army near the frontier of the ally of the British. What were the British to -- construe from such behaviour if not to believe the ---- Marathas hostile intentions.[4]

Wellesley was informed of these further negotia-

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1. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Consultations, 11th August 1803, Cons. No. 30. (App. B.17).
2. Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803, p.162.
3. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, pp.167-68.
4. Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803, pp.186-88.

-tions which had resulted in nothing. However the -- Conference on the 31st July put forward three proposals towards a reconcilitation. The first- two suggested that Wellesley should retire simultaneously with the Marathas who will proceed to their Capitals. But both these ---- proposals gave no guarantee that the Marathas will keep their promises and so were rejected by the General. The third one which was discussed with Collins and which - appeared likely to be accepted by the General was chang- -ed before it could be sent to Wellesley.[1] Thus three more days were wasted and Collins fully convinced that a war could not be averted, left the Maratha Camp on the 3rd August 1803, to go to Aurangabad.[2] War was declared against the Marathas in the middle of the rainy season, an ----- advantage for the British army.

THE WAR.

The Governor General's preparations for the War were vast, appropriate and efficient. He had decided on attacking the Marathas from three quarters, in Hindustan, in the Deccan and in Orissa. General Lake was ~~xxxxxx~~ left in sole charge of the operations in Hindustan. -

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1. Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803, p.188.
2. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.168.

General Wellesley was the complete master of affairs in the Deccan. The management of operations in the east- near Bengal and in Orissa was in the hands of the Governor General himself. Richard Wellesley sent out definite --- orders to his generals and then left them unhampered to carry them out as best they could.

To General Lake the orders were as follows. 1 He was to seize Sindia's possessions between the Ganges and the Jumna. 2. He was to take Emperor Shah Alum under the British protection. 3. The Rajput Chiefs and those - of other States beyond the Jumna were to be won over as British allies to further weaken Sindi's power in --- Hindustan. 4. Bundelkhund was to be occupied to strengthen the Benares frontier against Sindia or Bhonsle's aggres- -sions there.[1] To make the above operations successful the Governor General mentioned that certain circumstances must be considered and acted upon. For instance Monsr. --- Perron who was an independent and powerful force in the north, should be either reduced or conciliated by monetary compensation. That possession must be taken of forts and passes to the southward so that they would impede the - march of an army from the Deccan; particularly Gwalior must be captured. The Rana of Gohud who still possessed

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1. Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803, pp.153-54.

some influence over the Chiefs around his territory, could be made use of because he was anxious to have the British support. With his help if the other petty rulers could be induced to give an opposition to Sindia, the -- Marathas would have another obstacle in his way to -- Hindustan. The General would create an unsurmountable barrier to Sindia, if he won over the Rajas of Jynagur and Jeypur to the Subsidiary Alliance.[1]

The Governor General further explained, that the main aims of these operations in Hindustan, were to secure a firm control of North-Western India under the British, leaving of course the immediate management of the government, to different tributary princes, who - were at the same time to serve as a definite and sound defensive barrier. To achieve this, the French and the Maratha control must be absolutely removed from this part of the country.[2]

When the Governor-General by his letter of the 26th June, created General Wellesley the Commander--in-Chief of all British troops and those of the Allies, subject only to the orders of General Lake and General Stuart, he sent Arthur Wellesley definite orders to -

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1. Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803, p.155.
2. Ibid, pp. 156-57.

guide his actions, if the war broke out.The Governor--General advised that as soon as war was declared, the General was to advance rapidly, and destroy completely the armies of the Maratha Rajas, The forces of Daulat Rao Sindia were to be most severely dealt with. If the war ~~wa~~ proved successful for the British, and the Marathas sought peace, Daulat Rao must be deprived of his possessions and pretentions in the north; his maritime possessions around Bharoach; his possessions in Guzerat and those south of the Nurbudda - As regards the Raja of Berar the terms - of the peace should enforce the cession of Cuttack or - possession of it for a moderate rent or as security for the subsidiary force. The rest of the terms were not be harsh but discretionary.[1]

The British forces ready for the war were --- distributed in the following manner: The army in the - Deccan and Gujrat amounted to 35596 men, of whom 3595 men were to protect Hyderabad and Poona; 7826 men were to be as the covering army under General Stuart between the - ~~Kistna~~ Kistna and the Tungbuddra;[2] The advanced force was divided into 8903 men under General Wellesley and 7920 men under Col.Stevenson; and lastly from the troops in Gujrat 4281 men were placed in fortresses and 3071 men

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1.Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803,pp.163-65.

2.Grant Duff,History of the Marathas,II, pp.337-38.

kept for field service under Col.Murray - The army in Hindustan under General Lake numbered 10500 men.[1]

The Marathas had also assembled a fairly efficient but a much largerforce near the frontier of the Nizam. Sindia's army was made up of 18500 cavalry,11 battalions of regular infantry under European Officers,500 match-lockmen and a strong park of artillery carrying 35 heavy - ordnance and 170 field pieces- Raja Rughuji had brought with him 20000 cavalry, 6000 infantry, 500 rocket men, 500 camel guns and 35 field guns.[2] To these forces must be -- added the army under Perron who was guarding Sindia's -- interests in Hindustan.[3] As one author puts it, Perron had a very efficient plan of action but which was, never allow--ed to be carried out because of the jealousy of Sindia himself and his Hindu Officers, who resented his independent control of a powerful army.

As soon as War was declared, Wellesley marched rapidly on Ahmednagur from Walkee. Reaching it on the 8th August 1803 A.D. the town was taken by escalcade on the same day. The fort needed the seige-trains because of its strong walls, and so the General had to wait for two days. On the 10th the batteries opened fire on the fort,which -

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1.Grant Duff,History of the Marathas,II,p.338.
2.Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803,p.189.
3.Grant Duff,History of the Marathas,II,p.347.

offered opposition till the 12th when it surrendered.[1] The possession of Ahmednugur was valuable to the British army, as it served as a communicating link between the army and Poona, and as a depot for the army stores.[2] From 12th to the 21st August, Wellesley busied himself, reducing all the districts dependent on Ahmednugur, which yielded a revenue of about 634000 Rupees. The management of these districts was temporarily placed in British hands.[3] By the 23rd, Wellesley was moving against the Marathas. The next day apart of his army under him had crossed the Godavary, while the rest were crossing it. This army under Wellesley was to form a junction near Jafferabad with the one under Col. Stevenson accompanied by some Hyderabad troops.[4]

In the meanwhile the Marathas forces had left their heavy baggage in Burhanpur and were proceeding to the Badawlee Pass,[5] leading into the Nizam's land, where they thought they might cause trouble to succession, owing to the recent death of the old Nizam on the 6th August.[6] However, the nearness of the British army, saved any such attempts and the prince Mirza Secundar Jah, ascended the Hyderabad Gadi on the 7th instant in tranquillity.[7]

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1. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Proceedings, 2nd March 1804, Proceeding No.330.
2. Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803, p.189.
3. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Proceedings, 2nd March 1804, Proceeding No.330.
4. Ibid.
5. Ibid.
6. Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803, pp.190-1.
7. Ibid, p.192.

Wellesley moved from Ahmednugur to Aurangabad,which place was reached on the 29th August. The Marathas who - were coming south, passed unnoticed between the two ---- British armies, to the town of Jahnapur. From where taking a southerly and then easterly direction they intended cros--sing the Godavary to march on Hyderabad.[1] When the General learnt that the Marathas had passed south, he at once turned in pursuit. But he came straight south and - moved along east with the course of the river Godavary. The Marathas had however abandoned the idea of crossing the river though it was fordable in many places, an --- unusual event at this time of the Year. On the contrary they retreated towards Jalnapur. But before they reached it the town was attacked and taken by Col.Stevenson on the 2nd September when he came on it from the east.[2] Stevenson tried to engage the approaching Maratha army, but he was evaded and only succeeded in surprising a part of their camp and causing some damage. The Marathas -- rapidly retreated. At the Adjunta Pass they were joined by 16 battalions of infantry under Pohlman and Dupont, with a large and well equipped train of artillery.[3]

All this while Wellesley had kept on the tracts

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1. Imperial Records,Foreign Department,Secret Proceedings, 2nd March 1804,Proceeding No.387. Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803,p.240.
2. Imperial Records,Foreign Department,Secret Proceedings, 2nd March 1804,Proceeding No.387.
3. Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803,p.240.

of the Marathas army. He joined the force under Steven-
-son at Budnapur on the 21st September. From here both
the Commanders decided on moving northwards in two --
columns to meet again on the 24th and attack the Marathas,
Wellesley taking the eastern and Stevenson the western -
route.[1] Wellesley reached Paugey on the 22nd instant and
came on Naulnair on the 23rd instant. Here he was inform-
-ed that the Maratha force was 6 miles away. This ---
Wellesley thought must have been the left of the enemy
mostly composed of infantry, because he had been also
informed that the cavalry had marched away, and the --
infantry was preparing to follow. The General considered
it a good opportunity for an action, if the infantry had not
yet moved away. But when he had reconnoitred the Maratha
position he had to decide between immediate action, or
one on the following morning. He had not a sufficient
force to assure him a victory. On the other hand he -
reasoned that if he delayed, the Maratha cavalry would
follow him the next morning. Besides he had not sufficient
men to spare, to guard his baggage,which would be located
by the Marathas on the next day and plundered. He ----
determined on instantaneous attack.[2] Having reached a -
decision Wellesley plunged into one of his most hazardous

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1. Imperial Records,Foreign Department.Secret Proceedings,
2nd March 1804,Proceeding No.349.(App.B.19).

2. Ibid,
Bengal Papers for of the Maratha War of 1803.pp.240-41.

ventures.

THE BATTLE OF ASSYE.

The result of the General's reconnoitring,had proved different to what he had expected. His harkaras had informed him the Maratha force at Assye was composed merely of infantry, bit it was not so. With the infantry there was also a strong body of cavalry encamped in a - formidable position, which Wellesley considered would have been impossible to attack, af the only passage - across the Kailna Nala had been occupied by the infantry. The Maratha camps were located in an open space between two rivers the Kailna and the Juah.[1]

Wellesley having decided his plan of attack, returned to the infantry, which he had led up to an - eminence, from where he showed them the road, which they were to take, when they advanced against the enemy. The The movements of the artillery were left in the hands of Captain Johnson, the engineer of the army, a very active cool and useful man. Whilst the British army was busy taking its positions, a body of enemy horse had crossed the Kailna, and tried to harass their movements. The - General ordered some troops to charge them, which --- resulted in their retreat.[2] The crossing of the Kailna

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1. Gurwood, Duke of Wellington's Despatches,II,pp.338-39.
2. Colebrooke,Life of Elphinstone,I,p.64-65.

was achieved without much loss,though the Marathas had kept up a heavy cannonade from the other side of the river.[1]

The position of the British infantry was now at right angles to the river. The British guns were busy - firing as the infantry formed into the required position (G.G.) of two lines. The first was made up of the 78th Highlanders, two native battalions and the piquets. The second was formed by two battalions of native troopsa and the 74th Highlanders. The cavalry force consisting of the 19th Light Dragoons (Europeans) and three regiments of Madras cavalry (Indians) had taken up a position in the rear. The whole British force humbered in all 1500 --- Europeans and 3500 Indian troops.[2]

General Wellesley with a partyof troops led his army on to the action. The General's small following -- outstripped the others in their zeal and soon came within musket range of the enemies. They were forced to retreat for safety till, the whole body of the British troops came up. The right and centre of the Maratha line (H H) fell back, against the advancing British army, and wheeling around its west left it took up a new position along the river Juwa. The Maratha left had persevered at its post

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1. Colebrooke,Life of Elphinstone,I,pp.64-65.
2. Ibid, I,pp.65-66.

and was later instrumental in causing great damage on the British right.[1] To come up against the new -- Maratha formation, The British infantry moved to - occupy a new position (M M). The General had ordered the body of piquets, to keep away from the firing kept up by the Maratha left, who had also occupied the --- village of Assye (U), from where to carry on a safe cannonade. But the Officer in charge unwittingly kept on advancing, which made the 74th Regiment to follow the piquets and ultimately on passing them, sustained such a deadly fire from the Marathas, as to lose most of its men.[2] The sorry state of the 74th encouraged a body of Maratha cavalry, to charge the very small - number of the remaining active troopers of the --- Regiment. The charge dispersed them, but before the cavalry could do more damage, the vigilant eye of the General had seen the disaster, and orderdd the British Cavalry which he had kept back to use for the final movement, to oppose and drive out the Maratha horse.[3]

The fresh state of the British Cavalry -- combined with the impetuous and bold manner of their attack, soon dispersed the Maratha horse.[4] Having disposed of the cavalry, they charged some of the Maratha infantry

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1. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Proceedings, 2nd March 1804, Proceeding No.349.(App.B.19).
   Colebrooke, Life of Elphinstone, I, pp.66-67.
2. Gurwood, Duke of Wellington's Despatches, pp.340.
3. Ibid, pp.340-41.
   Colebrooke, Life of Elphinstone, I, pp.66-67.
4. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Proceedings, 2nd March 1804, Proceeding No.349.(App.B.19).

and soon drove them across the Juwa river. The example of the cavalry was followed by an overwhelming charge by the British infantry, which also succeeded in -- sending most of the remaining Marathas across the -- river. The Maratha retreat was not a rout. Across the river most of them formed themselves into some order and moved steadily backwards.[1] The British Cavalry - which had also crossed the river with the Marathas, charged straggling groups of the enemies, along the river Juwa, and killed many of them. Having finished their work of the other side of the river the British Cavalry recrossed and charged a new formation of -- Maratha infantry at (R) and dispersed them.[2]

Wellesley who had just returned with the 78th, from his attack which had taken him to the river Juwa, took the 7th native Cavalry with him, to attack a body of the enemy left, which had been - left behind, whilst Wellesley advanced to the river. These Marathas had seized some of the British guns and spiked them, and also recovering some of their - own, had opened fire on the British rear and annoyed them. Having cleared this last opposition Wellesley remained the master of a very bloody battle-field.[3]

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1. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Proceedings, 2nd March 1804, Proceeding No.349. (App.B.19).
   Colebrooke, Life of Elphinstone, I, p.67.
2. Ibid, pp.67-68.
3. Ibid.
   William Kaye, Life & Correspondence of Lord Metcalfe, I, p.126.

The Marathas had lost about 1200 men while about 5000 must have been wounded in this battle.[1] The British lost 198 European and 230 Indian lives, whilst there were wounded or missing 442 Europeans and 696 Indians.[2]

After the battle the Marathas sent some brigades of infantry to Burhanpur. With most of the cavalry and a small number of infantry, they had marched south-west by the Casserbary ghaut to Ahmednugur.[3] Wellesley sent Stevenson to Burhanpur, and himself followed the Marathas southward. When the General arrived at Foolmery, about 10 miles from Aurangabad, he learnt that the Marathas had taken a detour, and were rapidly marching northwards, to intercept Stevenson, who after taking Burhanpur without any opposition on the 16th October, was marching on Asseergarh.[4] On the 17th October Stevenson took the Petah of Asseergarh, and opened a battery against the Fort on the 18th. He took possession of the Fort on the 20th.[5] When the Marathas learnt, that Wellesley was following them, they separated their army. Rughuji moved towards Chanda. The British --

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1. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Proceedings. 2nd March 1804, Proceeding No.351. (App.B.21).
   Gurwood, Duke of Wellington's Despatches, II, p.372.
2. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Proceedings, 2nd March 1804, Proceeding No.350. (App.B.20).
3. Ibid, 2nd March 1804, Proceeding Nos.351 & 355. (App.B.21).
4. Ibid, 2nd March 1804, Proceeding No.365.
5. Ibid.

General felt that this was a move to draw him south, from Stevenson and he hesitated. But when he learnt - that Stevenson had already taken Asseergarh, ~~and~~ he did not fear any danger for that Commander. He sent orders to Stevenson to entrust the districts around Asseer--garh to the Nizam's Officers, and leave a garrison in the Fort itself, before he moved against Gawilgarh, the fortress of the Nagpur Raja.[1]

Raja Rughuji separated from Sindia, now marched through the ~~hix~~ hills on the boundary of Khandesh, to - the river Godavary. Wellesley followed him, ascending the ghaut on the 25th and continued south till he passed Aurangabad on the 29th October.[2] The Bhonsle advanced -- gradually to the east and was at Lukergaon, about 20 miles north from Puttun, when the General arrived at Aurangabad. On the 31st October the Raja detached 5000 horse to -- intercept Capt. Baynes who was brining a convoy of 14000 bullocks and grains to the General; but the detachment failed to perform the seizure.[3] Wellesley decided, that - Rughuji Bhonsle must be made ~~the~~ to retire peacefully to - his Capital, or the war so carried into his ~~dominions~~ as domains as to force him to seek peace. Rughuji had in

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1. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Proceedings, 2nd March 1804, Proceeding No.365.
2. Gurwood, Duke of Wellington's Despatches, II, pp.341-42.
3. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Proceedings, 2nd March 1804, Proceeding No.366.

the meanwhile gone towards the Barim ghaut, on the road to Nagpur, whilst Sindia was with a body of cavalry to the eastward of Aulkapur. The British army had kept up a close pursuit.[1] General Wellesley came upon a considera--ble body of Sindia's and the Berar Raja's cavalry on the 29th November. The horse were accompanied by a large - body of Bhonsle's regular infantry and a park of ----- artillery. Though Sindia through his agents had asked for a truce, he had not kept up a peaceful behaviour, consequently Wellesley determined on giving them another defeat, to restore peace in India.

Having determined on his course of action he moved on Pathuldi where the Marathas were located.Here the General was joined by Col.Stevenson, and found that the Marathas had just retired from the spot. Instead of pursuing them Wellesley decided to rest his army who - had been tired[2] owing to the constant marching they had to do, to keep close to the Marathas. But scarcely had he halted his men, when large bodies of Maratha horse, were noticed in front of the British army. In a short time these batches of horse clashed with the Mysore cavalry. This made the General order the piquets to go

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1.Imperial Records,Foreign Department,Secret Proceedings, 2nd March 1804,Proceeding No.376.

2.Memoir of the War in India,(1803-1806) by W.Thorn,pp.300-2. Imperial Records,Foreign Department,Secret Proceedings, 2nd March 1804,Proceeding No.387.(App.B.28).

to the help of the cavalry. Going forward himself, - Wellesley perceived that the confederate forces made up of cavalry, infantry and artillery had extended over a front of five miles, on the plains of Argaon, six miles from Pathuldi.[1]

THE BATTLE OF ARGAON.

Though the day had far advanced, and his men - tired, still the General ordered a general march to --- ~~the~~ battle, because he saw that the Marathas were ready to risk an action. Wellesley advanced in one column - nearly parallel to the enemy's line with his cavalry - leading the army.[2]

The Maratha army had most of its infantry and artillery with a small body of cavalry on the left; the heavy bodied cavalry with some other troops of Sindia - occupied the main position whilst on their right stood the pindaris and other light troops. The Maratha army stood in front of the village of Argaon with its -- gardens and enclosures, In their own front was a plain much cut by waterways. The whole army was under the - command of Sindia and Vyankoji Bhonsle the brother of Raja Rughuji.[3]

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1. Memoir of the War in India (1803-1806) by W.Thorn.pp.300-302.
2. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Proceedings, 2nd March 1804, Proceeding No.387.(App.B.28)
3. Ibid.
   Memoir of the War in India (1803-1806) by W.Thorn.pp.300-302.

When the British force neared the Maratha line it formed into two lines;the first of infantry and the -- second of cavalry. The British right pressed against the enemy left,and their own left supported by the Hyderabad horse and those from Mysore were soon attacked by the - Maratha right. The 74th and the 78th regiments had a busy time,against a body of Persian troops,[1] who were after a - stubborn fight dispersed. In like manner,the heavy cavalry of Sindia,which had kept up a persistent attack,were -- repulsed with much loss. When the other parts of the army saw, that Sindia's cavalry had been forced to retreat,they took it as a kind of a signal and tried to make a hasty retreat, which was changed in many places into a route?[2] The creation of confusion and the pursuit by the British cavalry made the Marathas lose many lives. The evening had far advanced,but there was sufficient moonlight,to help the British cavalry to keep up the pursuit,and destroy further, the flying men. The Marathas had left behind 38 pieces of cannon and -- their ammunition,with most of their baggage and elephants. The British army lost 15 Europeans and 31 native -- troopers. Of the wounded there --- ---

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1. Arthur Wellesley's description of the early stages of the Battle runs as follows:-
"What do you think of nearly three entire battalions, who - behaved so admirably in the Battle of Assye,being broke - and running off when the cannonade commenced at Argaon -- which was not to be compared with that at Assye ? Luckily I happened to be at no great distance from them and I was able to rally them and re-establish the battle. If I had not been there I am convinced we should have lost the day." (Wellington's Despatches,Vol.II. p.561.)
2. Memoir of the War in India (1803-1806) by W.Thorn. pp.300-302.

were 145 Europeans and 148 natives.[1]

The British losses were very minor and so Wellesley decided to march, as early as possible against Gawilgarh. Stevenson was ready with the - seige trains, which he had prepared after the -- taking of Asseergarh.[2]

By the 7th December 1803 the British had -- started their operations against Gawilgarh. Steven- -son was to make the main attack on the northern gate and Wellesley to help him, was to concentrate on the -- lesser two gates, to the south and north-west. Over a stretch of 30 miles, through- mountains and ravines, the ordnance and stores of Stevenson were dragged. The strenuous task was accomplished by the 12th of ---- December, and the batteries opened fire against the double walls of the outer fort.[3] Practicable breaches were made in the walls by the night of the 14th and the assault was fixed for the night of the 15th.

Lieut-Colonel Kenny led the attack with a -- chosen band of men and supported by the 94th regiment.

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1 Imperial Records, Foreign Department Secret Proceedings, 2nd March 1804, Proceeding No.387. (App.B.28)

2 Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.180.

3 Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Proceedings, 2nd March 1804, Proceeding No.389. (App.B.29)

They were not offered a resolute resistence and were soon able to enter the fort. They charged the inmates, who flying through the north west gate, were met by half of the 78th regiment under Col.Chalmers, who had been -- sent by Wellesley to attack from that quarter. The -- Marathas hemmed in from both sides, were killed in -- numbers. However this engagement was only a preliminary to the more difficult one yet to come. The fort they had captured was situated on a ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ separate hill, when the actual one to be seized, lay behind a deep valley surrounded by double walls and strong gates.[1]

Most of the Officers rallied their men, forming them into an order. They had thought of waiting till the guns were brought and the walls breached. However the - heroic action of Kenny led them again to an attack. That Officer had outstripped his men and had run straight to the gate of the fort. His men and other Europeans quickly joined him. One after the other the two steep walls and hills adjoining to them were slowly and steadily clambered over.[2] The Marathas had kept on pouring an incessant fire amongst them, but nothing daunted, the assaulting party -

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1. Imperial Records,Foreign Department,Secret Proceedings, 2nd March 1804, Proceeding No.389, (App.B.29) Colebrooke,Life of Elphinstone,Vol.I, pp.103-104.
2. Ibid. Vol.I, pp. 105-106.

managed to open the gate of the second wall as well. Then on the taking of the fort was an easy matter.

The capture of Gawilgarh which was considered one of the most impregnable forts of India, broke Raja Rughuji's spirit to fight the British. He sent his -- minister Yeshwant Rao Ramchander, to attend on ----- Wellesley, who had encamped at Deogaon, an insignificant village at the foot of the hills.[1]

THE CAMPAIGN IN HINDUSTAN.

Before the War was declared, Sindia had sent orders to Perron to prepare his army to be put at his disposal, when called upon. Perron's obedience to that order in no way showed that he was only a Commander - following his master's orders. In fact he had acquired a position in the north quite independent of any ---- authority. He knew his own power and he was determined to sell it to the person who paid best for his help.

The territories under Perron fetched a revenue of one crore and 35 lakhs of Rupees or about £ 1700000. Perron had under him mostly French Officers unlike the method of De Boigne who employed any European.[2] Since

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1. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Proceedings 2nd March 1804, Proceeding No.389.(App.B.28)
2. Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803, p.222, Note.

he began service under Sindia and even now nominally was his General, Perron took advantage of Sindia's - position of Deputy - Vakeel - Ul-Mutuluk and called - his army the "Imperial Army" and himself the Emperor's servant.[1]

Perron's designs were construed by the -- British as new French plans to establish themselves in India, by making a tool of the Mughal Emperor. So when - the British declared War against Sindia they determined to crush once for all this French menace, as well as - break Sindia's overgrown power.

The War being declared General Lake in Hindus- -tan, marched on the ceded provinces from Cawnpore on - the 7th August.[2] On the 20th however, Perron sent an - intimation which showed a desire to come to terms. The General agreed, but Perron failed to avail himself of the offer, becauses circumstances kept him busy else- -wehere. Even then General Lake consented to negotiate with a confidential agent from him. His agent met -- General Lake on the 29th August, but could not come to an agreement because he evaded the term for the surren- -der of Perron.[3]

On the 29hh August the British force came in

1. Bengal Papers of the War of 1803, p.222, Note.
2. Ibid. p.187.
3. Ibid. pp.187-189.

the vicinity of Cowle the principal Station in the - territory in charge of Perron - General Perron's forces were drawn up in a strong position near the fort of - Aligarh. They were immediately attacked by the British forces with great skill and spirit. The attack made - Perron's force retreat after offering some resistence.[1]

On the 4th September the Fort of Aligarh hither--to considered impregnable was taken by assault and Mons. Pedron[2] the Commandant was taken prisoner.

In the meanwhile meantime a detachment of five Companies of British sepoys under Lieur.Col.Cunningham were attacked by Mons.Fleury with a strong body of horse at Shekoabad on the 2nd September. The sepoys repelled the attack, but two days later, on the 4th they were -- attacked again[3] and were forced to capitulate.

General Lake hearing of this reverse, sent a body of cavalry to oppose Fleury. The Commandant did not face this British detachment, because the fall of Aligarh might have made him nervous[4]. He retreated fast across the Jumna.

On the 7th September, Lake received another - letter from Perron asking to be allowed to retire within

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1. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Proceedings, 2nd March 1804, Proceeding No.52.
2. Ibid. 2nd March 1804, Proceeding No.68.
3. Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803, p.246.
4. Ibid. p.247.

the Company's ~~xxxx~~ territory. Lake again consented to ~~xxxxxxxx~~ treat. Perron had decided to surrender because his authority had been superseded and his European --- Officers had turned traitors to him.[1]

After making the necessary preparations to - defend Aligarh General Lake moved on Delhi on the -- 7th September. The Commander-in-Chief marched to ---- Secundrabad and then to Soorajpur. On his march he -- learnt that Mons.Bourquien had crossed the Jumna with sixteen battalions and six thousand cavalry, accompanied by a considerable train of Ordnance. Lake reaching his ground of encampment near Jehnah Nullah(six miles from Delhi) in the morning of 11th September; he found the French General occupying a superior position and ready for battle.[2] The British force amounted to about 4500 - men; the 76th British regiment seven battalions of --- sepoys, the 27th Dragoons, two regiments of native ~~cavalry~~ cavalry and some artillery. The Maratha force under - Bourquien numbered thirteen thousand infantry and six thousand cavalry.[3] The Marathas were drawn out of ~~their~~ their strong position, by a faint retreat of the advanc- -ed British cavalry. The whole British force then forced the enemy and steadily advanced upon them. When the --

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1. Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803, pp.247-248.
2. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secreat Proceedings, 2nd March 1804, Proceeding No.102.
3. Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803, pp.248-249.

Marathas saw their mistake they halted.

The British advance faced a strong artillery fire but Lake led them to close quarters and ordered a charge. The British force had moved in two lines - one of infantry and other of cavalry behind. After - their charge the ~~in~~ infantry were ordered to form into columns ~~and~~ of regiments and let the cavalry charge between them.

The battle was soon won, the Marathas gave way and fled, leaving their whole artillery and ammunition with two tumbrils containing treasures.[1] This success at Delhi placed the ~~Emperor~~ Emperor ~~in~~ in British --- hands and Mons.Bourquein with four French Officers ---- surrendered the possession of the Doab of the Ganges and the Jumna.[2]

Having taken Delhi, Lake moved on Agra. He reach--ed Muttra on the 2nd October, where he united with Col. Vandeleur's detachment. He came against the Fort of Agra on the 4th October at 2 P.M.

Lake called for a surrender but no reply was - sent - A force of 7 battalions with guns were in ------

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1. Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803, p.249.
   Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Proceedings, 2nd March 1804, Proceeding No.102.
2. Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803, p.250.

possession of the town. The General saw that it was -- necœssary to dissharge dislodge this body before -- anything could be achieved against the fort.

On the morning of the 10th October a good -- force under Col.Clarke, Lieut-Col.MacCulloch,Major -- Haldane and Capt.Worsley advanced on the town braving the ravines. The spirited attack was withstood for a short time before the Maratha forces were scattered and many killed.[1]

After this victory Lake again tried to negotia--te for a peaceful capitulation. The Commander of the -- fort refused to surrender and so the British attacked and took the fort.

The capture of Agra left Lake free to concen--trate his forces against Perron,who had not yet given himself up, though he had written asking for British -- friendship. At this stage Perron had with him 17 batta--lions of troops and was stationed 30 miles in the rear,[2] when Lake attacked Agra.

The British General could not get very near the French General for some time. His opportunity how--ever came on the 31st October. Not wishing to miss the

1.Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803, p.251.
2.Ibid. p.252.

advantage, he led his cavalry rapidly onwards so as to overtake the Maratha force and ordered his infantry to follow quickly.

On the 1st November he sighted the Maratha --- force but it was fast retreating. This decided Lake - to attack at once without waiting for his infantry. He had not advanced far when his progress was checked by the bursting of a reservoir.

This delay gave Perron an opportunity to -- take up a strong position with his right in front of - Laswari and his left on Mahalpur whilst his whole ------ front was concealed in high grass.[1]

The dust clouds raised by the cavalry -- prevented Lake from seeing the new formation. In ---- ignorance the British General attacked, the Maratha left was the first to be overpowered and its guns -- taken. In other directions the cavalry charges had -- not succeeded quite as well. But by 12 O'Clock the -- British infantry had crossed the rivulet and were ----- ordered to take up positions for an attack.

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1. Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803, p.252.

Perron sent a message agreeing to surrender the guns under certain conditions. Lake agreed to stop - hostilities whilst discussions were going on; at the same time he had made his preparations for an attack.

A proper understanding was not reached when within the time allotted and so Lake ordered an attack.

The victory at Laswari was a very costly one to the British, though the Marathas had lost quite as much in proportion in men, artillery and baggage.[1]

After the Battle of Laswari Sindia's power in the north was broken. General Perron after a short time of negotiations, surrendered, being granted certain ----- privileges. The British Authority was recognised and - was shortly after firmly established in Hindustan.

THE REASONS WHY THE MARATHAS FAILED DURING T

THE 1803 WAR.

The Marathas lost the 1803 War against the British because of many reasons. Their fall began when Daulat Rao

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1. The Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803.pp.252-53.

Sindia showed an over-confidence in his well drilled -- infantry trained by European Officers and his powerful - park of artillery. With these instruments he was determin--ed to fight the British, in the European manner of warfare.[1] Rughuji Bhonsle who himself had a trained body of infantry, though less efficient compared to those of Sindia, would - have liked to prosecute the warfare more cautiously and in the old Maratha fashion with their rapidly moving cavalry,[2] but he was overruled and in the end won over to the -- desires of the impetuous Sindia. Daulat Rao was quite sure of the united Maratha strength and there was no wonder about it. Their army was really too big and far more efficient, -- than any Maratha army of the past. But the Rajas failed to gauge the true spirit and discipline of their troops. A great many amongst them, had not a particular attachment for their leaders, who were not the true Generals whom soldiers worship and follow to the end. Daulat Rao himself was not a successful nor a brave soldier and Rughuji Bhonsle was - far from being a soldier or any kind of a military Commander. Besides the Bhonsles army was badly paid, which reduced much of their fighting spirit. It was unfortunate that these two rulers failed to secure the help of an able soldier, like - Jeswunt Rao Holkar. His military ability would have helped them much, to avert the big disasters they faced in their - battles with the British army. Holkar an exponent of the old

1. Surendra Nath Sen, Military System of the Marathas, pp.5-6.
2. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, pp.213-215.

Maratha method of warfare, would have checked the impetuosity and arrogance of Sindia and prompted them to fight the - English in the old guerilla warfare.

When the war began, the Marathas had not expected that the English would move to action during the monsoon. The Marathas never fought out of season and so the British readiness to fight any time of the year placed them at a - great disadvantage. The Maratha army was big and unlike the old Maratha forces moved slowly.[1] The British army was small and moved faster. The Maratha army lacking in clever --- generals was pitted against the ability, cleverness, --- resource, indomitable will and courage of some of the great generals of the time; Arthur Wellesley the future Duke of Wellington, General Lake and General Sir Stuart.[2] Though the British army fought against overwhelming odds at Assye and Argaon, it was only their discipline and their faith in their Commanders, which made them adhere tenaciously to their --- positions. They ultimately shook the fighting spirit of - their opponents and overcame the slack discipline of the Maratha army. Once the Maratha lines were breached, the rest became an easy matter for the British soldiers. The Marathas usually left the battlefield in utmost disorder, - which cost them a great number of extra lives and demoralised them for further encounters.

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1. G.S.Sardesai, The Main currents of Maratha History, pp.161-185.
2. Ibid.

CAMPAIGN IN CUTTACK.

We have seen before, that since the time of Janoji Bhonsle, the British have been very anxious to acquire the piece of land known as the Cuttack from the Berar ---- Dominion. They had tried diplomacy, political manouvring and even plain business methods, to gain this tract which was of such great advantage to them but the Rajas of -- Berar were some how against surrendering this possession, which was not of a very great value to them.

Now that an opportunity offered itself the -- Governor-General made the conquest of Cuttack one of the main aims of the War of 1803.

From the point of view of War politics it was - necessary, that a part of the British army must concentrate on this side of the Maratha front, as it was likely that the Marathas would endeavour to attack the eastern -- British possessions, which would pay them with rich -- booty, at the same time endanger the very heart of ---- British activities and strength.

The Governor-General was qui therefore quite --

prepared to move his forces into Cuttack as soon as War was declared.

Marquis Wellesley knew that Cuttack was made up of petty Zemindaris and chieftainships many of whom paid very little to the Berar Government and were a -- great deal dissatisfied with the Maratha rule. His - first intention was to win over these people and even induce the Berar officials to transfer their vassalage under the British suzerainty. If this did not ----- succeed then force was to be used.[1]

According to the arrangements made beforehand a force was made ready at Ganjam under Col.Campbell to take possession of Cuttack.[2] A Commissioner one -- was also sent
John Melville/who was to work in settling the conquered land and also to help the military Commander in ---- negotiating terms with the Berar Raja's Officers or - the neighbouring chiefs.[3]

The force assembled at Ganjam consisted of 2815 men, of which over 600 were European soldiers and 2200 were native troops. Captain Blunt was attached to the force as the Military Engineer because he knew --

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1. Imperial Records,Foreign Department,Secret Proceedings, 1st March 1804, Proceeding Nos.10 & 11.
2. Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803, p.190.
3. Imperial Records,Foreign Department,Secret Proceedings, 1st March 1804, Proceeding No.1.

Cuttack very well having surveyed the province. The Governor-General had planned to strengthen -- Campbell's position by sending small detachments - to occupy Ballasore and Jellasore and later as soon as season admitted to send a battalion to join him in Cuttack.[1]

The detachment to occupy Ballasore was sent by sea under Capt.Morgan. It consisted of 500 Bengal volunteers and 21 artillery men with four 6 pounders.

A detachment of 835 sepoys and 84 men of - the Governor-General's body-guard under Lieut-Col. Ferguson was formed at Jellasore to march to Cuttack with Morgan's force if the state of the intermediate country or the progress of the main army favoured the movement. This detachment was supported by 1400 -- sepoys from Midnapore under Lieut-Col.Fenwick.[2]

1803 A.D. Capt.Campbell having fallen very ill whilst moving against Cuttack, Lieut-Col.Harcourt was sent to take command which he did on the 11th September - though the force had left Ganjam on the 8th.[3] Under

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1.Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803, pp,196-197.
2.Ibid. p.191.
3.Ibid.

Under Harcourt the force took possession of -- Manikpotam on the 14th September, from where the Maratha force soon fled on their approach.

From Manikpotam Harcourt sent word to the principal Brahmins of the Pagoda of Juggernaut, to put the place --- under their protection. On the 16th a favourable answer was sent and a Brahmin deputation awaited on Harcourt, to claim British protection. On the 18th the army encamped at ---- Juggernaut, whilst the Maratha troops stationed there, fled on the approach of British troops.[1]

In the meantime Captain Morgan who was advancing on Ballasore, occupied it on the 21st September, without -- great trouble.

Having taken the Temple of Juggernaut under his --- protection, Harcourt adopted methods to fulfil the instruc--tions given to Campbell by the Governor General,when he --- started on this campaign.[2]

All the treasures possessed by the temple, the priests, or the Brahmin devotees or by persons attached --------

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1. Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803, p.191.

2. Imperial Records. Foreign Department.Secret Proceedings, 1st March 1804, Proceeding No.15.

attached to the temple were considered sacred property and not treated as prize money - Though the Brahmins - were supposed to make rapacious profits from the pilgrims, still the system was not disturbed as it might infuri--ate the pilgrims, who pay the dues voluntarily - At the same time no such engagements were entered into, which would have to be broken for its abuses and which may become difficult to break in the future. The -- British force showed due respect to the Pagoda and the religious prejudices of the Brahmins and the pilgrims. The priests and the pilgrims were afforded the utmost security to their persons and their properties. They were all made to understand that they would not have to pay more than what they paid to the Maratha Government for the temple's protection.[1]

The Maratha army in Cuttack was not a large - one, as the Berar Raja could not afford to send more men for its protection. His own position and that of his - Capital was made precarious by the brilliant warfare of Wellesley.

From Juggernant Harcourt moved towards Cuttack.

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1. Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803, p.197.

On the very first day of his march, he was kept busy by several attacks from the Marathas, which he repelled.[1] Later there took place an action - with an advanced detachment of the British force and a party of the Marathas near Muckundpur. The Marathas were badly beaten and they offered no - further opposition henceforth.[2] Harcourt's way - was further cleared by a detachment sent under Lieut.Slye by Capt.Morgan from Ballasore, against a Maratha force in the vicinity of Soorang 20 - miles south of Ballasore. Slye defeated and -- dispersed this force.[3] Still the progress of Harcourt's force was delayed, because the -- country was highly irregular and the rivers had - reached higher levels. On the 10th October the - force neared Cuttack. The same day the town was occupied without resistence.[4]

Harcourt was now left with the capture of Barabutty a very strong fortress. It had only one entrance leading in by a bridge, over a ditch 20 feet deep and varying in width from 35 feet to - 135 feet.

On the 12th October however a spot was -

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1. Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803, p.205.
2. Ibid. pp.205 & 245.
3. Ibid. p.206.
4. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Proceedings, 1st March 1804, Proceeding No.69.

marked out to receive heavy bombardment. On the -- morning of the 14th instant two howitzers, a 12 and a 6-pounder opened fire, and most of the defences to the south of the fort were reduced, which silenced - the Maratha guns. Harcourt then ordered Lieut-Col. Clayton to storm the fort. After losses on both sides, the fort was abandoned.[1]

In the meanwhile the detachment under --- Lieut-Col.Ferguson from Jellasore reached Bellasore on the 4th October without any opposition. On the - 15th instant Ferguson was ordered to proceed to --- Budruck, a village half way between Cuttack and Balla--sore to protect its inhabitants who had helped the - British army and were pleased to be relieved from Maratha misrule.[2] Thus by the end of October opposition in Orissa was at an end and measures were taken to -- settle the province.

THE AFFAIR IN BUNDELKHUND.

The detachment under Lieut-Col.Powell which was meant to join Himmut Bahadur the principal Officer

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1. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Proceedings, 1st March 1804, Proceeding Nos. 70 & 72.
2. Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803, p.306.

of the Peshwa in Bundelkhund, with an aim to occupy that province, crossed the Jumna on the 6th September and entered Bundelkhund - On the 15th September Powell joined Himmut Bahadur, who had under him about 13 to - 14000 men. They together reached the river Cane on the 23rd September, and found Shumsher Bahadur occupying a strong position across the river.[1]

The joint force delayed meeting Shumsher -- Bahadur because they were busy reducing all forts and opposition between the Jumna and the Cane, to establish British authority.

Later on the 10th October they crossed the - river and on the 12th of the same month they engaged Shumsher and compelled him to retreat with loss.[2] Thus in the early stages of the war Bundelkhund came into British hands.

THE TREATY OF DEOGAON.

Yeshwant Rao Ramchander, who had attended on Wellesley at Deogaon to negotiate a peace for his -

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1. Bengal Papers of the Maratha War of 1803, p.250.
2. Ibid.
   Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, Vol.II, p.357.

master Rughuji Bhonsle had no difficulty in coming to terms with the British General. The terms demand-ed by the British were severe but the Raja's ---- Minister had no option, except to accept. The negotia-tions had commenced on the 16th December and an -- understanding was reached on the next day, when an - informal agreement was entered into.

By the Treaty of Deogaon, Raja Rughuji was made to cede the whole of Orissa with Ballasore. His possessions on the west of the river Wardha, except the forts of Gawilgarh and Narnalla with their adjoin-ing districts, were also taken away from him. He was made to give up his rights as the Suzerain over the Chiefs of the Sumbulpur districts. That henceforth the British were to mediate and arbitrate, in any - dispute which the Bhonsle had with the Court of -- Hyderabad or Poona. Raja Rughuji was not to employ any European or American in his service whose nation was at war with the British - Similarly any British - subject whether European or Indian without the consent of the Calcutta Government. As regards all the treaties which the British had entered into with the Feudatories

of the Raja of Nagpur, they were to be confirmed by him. And lastly accredited agents from each side - must reside at the Court of the other.[1]

The Treaty of Deogaon broke for ever the - power of the Bhonsles of Nagpur. They were never able in the future to win back, what they had lost. Rughuji II made frantic attempts, to gain atleast some portion of his lost greatness, but he achieved only little, - during the few years that he lived afterwards. He - had left behind an enbecile son, who passed away - after a reign of a year and to him followed a hot - headed, inexperienced young man, Rughuji's nephew. This young prince full of a spirit of independence and patriotism, without waiting to become strong, - pitted his feeble powers against the might of the British and ultimately lost whatever power was left to the Bhonsles after the Treaty of Deogaon.

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1. Gurwood, Duke of Wellington's Despatches, Vol.II, pp.591-595.
Nagpur Residency Records, Vol.II, No.1. (App.A 17)

AFFAIRS OF THE RAJAS & CHIEFS OF THE PROVINCES OF SUMBULPUR AND ORISSA DURING THE 1803 WAR.

As we know the military force which was sent to Cuttack was accompanied by a Commissioner to attend to civil affairs and to negotiate peaceful alliances with the feudatory chiefs of the Province who were desirous of transferring their allegiance from the Berar Raja to the British Government. The most important of these chiefs who wntered into an alliance with the British were the Rajas of Koonjhar, Ramgarh Sonepur and Boad.[1] Similarly to these engagements Major Broughton entered into some alliances with Chiefs on his side when he was appointed as Military Commander of the army in Sumbulpur.[2]

Major Broughton had lately restored some order in Surguja, and received orders in November 1803, that he was entrusted with the defence of the frontier of Berar, extending from the Southern extremity of Pacheti, to the banks of the Soane. Whether situated within the

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1. Nagpur Residency Records, Vol.III, No.2. (App.A 18.)
2. Ibid. Vol.II, No.19, (App.A 20)
   Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Proceedings, 12th November 1803, Proceeding No.12.

limits of the Zillah of Ramgarh or in any other - district, which would also imply the Zillah of - Mirzapur on the ~~Southern~~ southern bank of the Soane. He was asked to augment his army from the various - detachments at Ramgarh,Beerbhom,Pachaeti etc, but was to leave sufficient men for police duty and for the protection of the public mails, which were now to be carefully guarded.[1] Giving political instructions the Governor General wrote to Broughton that he must try and win over Vyankoji Bhonsle who had been estrang- -ed from his brother Raja Rughuji and who was the - independent master of Chhutteesgarh and its depen- -dencies. If he failed to do so he must try and win over the disaffected Chiefs from the Maratha rule to his support, promising to protect them in the future from any revengeful punishment of the Marathas.[2]

Major Broughton discovered that there were many chiefs willing to join the British, if they were only sure that they would have sufficient armed help from the Calcutta Government.[3] Broughton assured them of that and then on he had no lack of assistance from the Chiefs and Zemindars of Sumbulpur province. He had

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1. Imperial Records,Foreign Department,Secret Proceedings, 12th November 1803, Proceeding No.12.
2. Ibid. 12th April 1804,Proceeding No.2.
3. Ibid. 12th April 1804,Proceeding No.8.

been advised by the native Chiefs particularly Bhoop Sing one of their leaders, to take possession of the fort of Sumbulpur, as that would ensure him further support of the local inhabitants, and would cut off the communication between Nagpur and Cuttack.[1]

The British Commander promptly moved against the fort which surrendered to him without bloodshed[2] on the night of the 2nd January 1804. Broughton then settled the province which was restored to the Rani, who was given the charge of the fort. The principal Zemindars received Khilat as faras it was possible for the Commander to award.[3] Before he left, Broughton kept behind a small force because he thought a large one was not necessary. The small force was put under the charge of a highly respectable and able man, named Furznud Ali. It was meant to preserve order in the province and to show the Berar Raja and other Zemindars from the neighbourhood, that the British Government was still protecting the local Government.[4] In the meantime Raja Rughuji delayed the final ratification of the Treaty of Deogaon after his

1. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Proceedings, 12th April 1804, Proceeding No.8.
2. Ibid. 12th April 1804, Proceeding No.26.
3. Ibid. 12th July 1804, Proceeding No.145.
4. Ibid. 12th July 1804, Proceeding No.150.

return to Nagpur in January, attended by Elphinstone as the British envoy at his Court, because he objected to the transfer of his sovereign right over the Rajas and Zemindars of Sumbulpur and Orissa. The Governor-General declared to the Raja through his Agent Hon: Mountstuart Elphinstone, that he found the 10th -- Article "An indispensable necessity of maintaining the obligations of our public faith which has alone influenced his Excellency in Council's determination with regard to the Chieftains and territories which form the subject of discussion."[1] During the War the British through their Agents had entered into ----- alliances and agreements with Rajas and Chieftains under the suzerainty of Nagpur, and had promised to protect their rights after the war was over, for the help they gave as the British allies. Now when the peace was made, in good faith to the Chiefs, they had enforced the 10th Article, to protect these same --- rights.[2] But at the same time realising the loss the Nagpur Raja suffered, they were "disposed not only to guarantee to his Highness the annual receipt of the full amount of Revenue or Tribute which he derived from the Chieftains and territories in question, but even to compensate by any practicable means for this

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1. Nagpur Residency Records, Vol.III, No.2.(App.A 18)
2. Ibid.

unavoidable reduction of the extent of his dominions." The British Government was willing to relinquish its sovereign right over them if the Chiefs on their own were willing to release "the British Government from the obligation of its guarantee by which ~~the~~ its faith is pledged."[1]

However understanding over this controversy was not reached till August. The Governor-General in quick response wrote to Elphinstone in November to - decide with the Raja the subject of the compensation. He was willing to grant a sum of money equivalent to that which the Raja derived as tribute or revenue from the feudatories and also give certain privileges, -- distinctions or immunities at the Hindu places of --- worship e.g. Jaggernauth, Gya, Allahbad Muttra and --- Benares.[2]

ACTIVITIES OF RUGHUJI TO RETRIEVE HIS LOSSES.

1804 A.D. After Rughuji Bhonsle returned to Nagpur he found that he had three urgent things to do before he

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1. Nagpur Residency Records, III, L.No.2, (App.A.18).

2. Ibid, III, L.No.17.

could consider anything else. The first was to settle his finances; second to serve out reliefs for the -- effects of the Deccan famine, which had created a - partial suffering in his dominions; and third to take steps to recover Hoshangabad and Seoni from the Nawab of Bhopal who had taken them during the War, as that would settle his boundaries.[1]

To settle his finances Raja Rughuji extorted considerable sums of money from his Ministers and -- richest subjects. He was also not scrupulous about making his payments towards his troops.

In serving out reliefs to some of the famine stricken areas he was far from being liberal.[2]

As for the recovery of Hoshangabad and -- Seoni he had to wait three years before he could win back those districts.

In the month of June the Resident at the -- Nagpur Court, Mountstuart Elphinstone was made permanent at the post. In answer to an inquiry from the Calcutta - Government about the Raja Rughuji's designs, because of the hostile state of Sindia and Holkar, Elphinstone --

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.122.

2. Ibid, p.123.

wrote in August that the Raja's army was still - at Chauragarh but some of his Officers with --- Sukharam Bakshi had arrived recently at the -- Capital. The Raja had not yet given up his desire to somehow retrieve his losses.[1] He wasx was expect--antly watching the exploits of Holkar about whose - achievements highly exaggerated reports were brought in. Rughuji had kept up a continuous correspondence with the Camp of Holkar, but he was not decided on - any desparate move, till he was sure that Holkar -- could cope against the might of the British Govern--ment.[2]

Raja Rughuji continued hopeful but when he heard of a muhiny in Holkar's army,[3] he became - doubtful about the future successes. Any how he was busy about his army which he had increased in ---- Ruttunpur, Gurah Mandla and Chanda. But these were for local purposes. The army im Ruttunpur was need--ed against some refractory Zemindars in Chhuttees--garh and the designs of his brother.[4] That in Gurah Mandla was to proceed against the Bundelas and that in Chanda was to check against the incursions of the hill tribe called the "Yelmies". However Elphinstone

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1. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Proceedings. 29th November 1804, Proceeding No.147.
2. Ibid, Proceeding No.159.
3. Ibid.
4. Ibid, Proceeding No.167.

feared that the Raja might utilize the very same army towards a hostile step against the British when -- Sindia was so close as to have taken the possession of Hoshangabad.[1]

In November Meer Khan Pindari sent his vakil Hybut Rao to propose a confederacy against the English. The Raja must have known as to who had instigated Meer Khan to such a proposal. Even if Holkar or Sindia had directly proposed as they did before, he would have - refused under the conditions, which he saw did not - favour a success. He humoured Meer Khan through his Vakil but that Chief soon became impatient and joined the Nawab of Bhopal to intimidate Rughuji.[2]

1805 A.D. When Sindia and Holkar failed to win Rughuji over to the plan, of prosecuting another war against the British, they attempted to win over his brother Vyankoji to their cause. The younger Bhonsle was the next great prince in the dominion and had good ---- resources. He was also of adventurous type. Besides he was virtually a prisoner in his brother's hands, because he had aroused the resentment of the British by his exploits in the Nizam Nizam's districts, and

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1. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Proceedings. 29th November 1804, Proceeding No.167.
2. Ibid, 31st January 1805. Proceeding No.96.

in the Zemindaris of Chhutteesgarh which were under the protection of the Calcutta Government.[1]

Vyankoji was conveyed the proposals by - Sindia's agents and bankers Balaji Yeshwant and - Atmaram Shivram.[2] The latter of whom was a man of great wealth, whose chief place of business was at Benares. These agents had come nominally to - recruit soldiers for Sindia's army. Sindia's offer to Vyankoji was the commandership of a 1000 horse and an income worthy of the prince's station. The Jagir would be worth 24000 Rupees a year, and for every horse of the thousand he would be paid 300 Rs. a year. The Jagir would be given from the Sindia's half share when Bhopal would be conquered.[3] Though Vyankoji was willing to accept these terms he wanted the agents to obtain the consent of the Raja to the proposals. Rughuji discovered Sindia's plan to force his hands. He refused his consent, which made --- Vyankoji angry and made him plot to effect his -- escape. The plan was that he should get away to - Chanda on a pretext and join the bankers on his way to Gwalior. He succeeded in going to Chanda, but

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1. Proceeding & Meetings, Historical Records Commission held at Nagpur, p.86, V. XI.
2. Imperial Records, Political Letters to the Court of Directors, XXI, 1st October 1807. (App.B.42).
3. Proceeding & Meetings, Historical Records Commission, XI, p.86.

Rughuji was warned in time about the conspiracy and promptly confined the bankers. This way he ended for good such attempts in the future.

The Raja of Nagpur in the meanwhile had been pressed regularly by the British Resident to enter the Subsidiary Alliance but Rughuji studious--ly refused to listen on the subject. He hated to part with whatever amount of independence he still possessed. On the other hand he consistently - requested the Governor-General through Elphinstone to restore to him the territories which had been - taken away by the Treaty of Deogaon.

By 1805 Lord Cornwallis had decided to restore Sumbulpur and the dependencies of Chhuttees -garh on the Cuttack frontier to the Raja. And after his death, Sir George Barlow had hoped that if the Nizam consented the Berar's share of the Bhonsle may also be returned to him. In the month of ---- November the Governor-General sent orders to Captain Roughsedge commanding the Ramgarh Battalion to complete necessary preparations before restoring

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1. Imperial Records, Political Letters to the Court of Directors, XXI, 1st October 1807. (App.B.42).
2. Proceeding & Meetings, Historical Records Commission, held at Nagpur, p.86.
2. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.124.

Sumbulpur and Patna to the Raja of Berar.[1] A few months afterwards in the March of 1806, Captain Roughsedge succeeded only in arranging a reconcilia-tion with the Rani of Sumbulpur. The Zemindars of Raigarh, with their leader refused to return under the Government of Nagpur, and decided on fighting, till the last, before they were subjugated.[2]

Thus the partial restoration of his dominions in Sumbulpur, and on the Cuttack frontier was made in 1806. The Raja was offered a Jagir in Berar by the Nizam, but his pride as an independent ruler, prevented him from accepting such an offer.[3] However the restora-tion of these districts did not satisfy Rughuji. He had expected, that all his territories would be return-ed, when he received the letter from Lord Cornwallis. His energy was now directed, towards the reconquest of Hoshangabad and Seoni. By 1806 he had discovered that his force alone was not capable for the enterprise, so taking advantage of the recent proposals, which Sindia had made to his brother Vyankoji, Raja Rughuji sent to Sindia his willingness to partner with him, in exploiting Bhopal for themselves.[4] The agreement

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1. Nagpur Residency Records, IV, L.No.12.
2. Ibid, IV, L.No.16.& 18.
3. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.124.
4. Imperial Records, Political Letters to the Directors. XXI, 1st October 1807, (App.B.43).

-was concluded and Rughuji's army on the Nurbudda was ordered to cross that river, and join the force of Sindia which had laid seige to Hoshangabad.[1] By November Hoshangabad was taken, ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ and - the joint army was busy settling the whole country of Bhopal, which was handed over to Rughuji for a sum of money paid to Sindia.[2]

1807-09 A.D. For the two following years the recovery of the above districts served as a great drain on the treasury of the Raja of Nagpur. The revenue they - fetched, was considerably smaller to the expenditure they cost, to keep them peacefully under control. By 1809 the attacks of the pindaris had nearly ruined his revenue in that quarter. The aggressions of Mir Khan, had put him in an imminent danger of losing a great deal of his own territories. It is probable that Mir Khan might have been encouraged by Holkar to -- carry on these depradations, because Raja Rughuji had recently refused to listen to the new proposals sent by Holkar through his agents. The terms declared that he should join Holkar with an army or send the same under a reputed leader or one of his relatives to help

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1. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Political -- Proceedings, 21st December 1807, Proceeding No.4. (App.B.34).
2. Imperial Records, Political Letters to the Directors, XXIII, p.321. (App.B.44).

him execute a joint plan of action. If the Raja was not able to do so, he was to furnish monetary help, and even if that was not available, he wxxxt was to return Holkar's jewels, which Jaswant Rao had been deprived of, when he had been taken a prisoner whilst flying to Nagpur from the wrath of Sindia.[1]

1810 A.D. The Bhonsle was busy defending himself throughout the Year 1810. Mir Khan an ambitious man himself though a tool of Holkar, advanced to Bhopal with most of his pindarees, where the Nawab of the province join-ed him with his forces. The united army ravaged Gurah Mandla, and after the rains crossed the Nurbudda into the interior of the Nagpur territory. Raja Rughuji's Commander was reduced at Sreenugur, and was made to promise in the Raja's name, a large sum of money to be paid as the price of his retreat.[2]

But fortunately for Rughuji, Lord Minto interfered to put a stop to these depradations of the pindarees, because the Governor-General feared, that their successes against the Bhonsle, would embol-den them to enter and ravage the Company's territo-ries as well. The warning to desist from such ----

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1. Imperial Records, Political Letters to the Directors, XXIII, p.391 (App.E.44).

2. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.124.

misbehaviours tendered by the British agent, had the necessary effect on the pindarees, who retreated from the Nagpur territory.[1] But Raja Rughuji would not let them leave his domains in peace. He despatched an army in pursuit, who overtook a great portion of the pindarees and defeated them.[2] Mir Khan could not allow such an action go unpunished. Some time after, he made again attacks on the Nurbudda districts, but was repelled this time, and when a British army under Col.Close approached, he finally gave up hostile action against Rughuji. This voluntary help supplied by Lord Minto, was in show of the good intentions of the British Government towards Nagpur. The Governor-General hoped that such an action would induce Raja Rughuji to consent to the Subsidiary Alliance. In fact when the Resident proposed it again, the Raja refused in rather an offensive manner. The Governor-General promptly withdrew the army from the Nurbudda, as a punishment for the rudeness.[3] Rughuji repented much for his folly, and asked the Governor-General to allow the army to remain, but Minto thought it undignified to comply.

1811-14 A.D.

The withdrawal of the British force, encouraged

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1. Nagpur Residency Records, X,L.No.10,(App.A.22).
2. Jenkins,Report on the Nagpur Territories,p.125. Nagpur Residency Records,X,L.No.6.
3. Imperial Records,Foreign Department,Political Proceedings 2nd May 1810,Consultation No.30.(App.B.36).

the pindarees to start their plundering raids into Nagpur territories. They moved quite fast and in a - short time were in the vicinity of the Capital, --- and even burnt one of its suburbs near Telinkheri.[1] Raja Rughuji through the Resident, importuned the -- Governor-General to help him drive out these free- -booters, but Minto could not comply, as he was busy sending out expeditions to Java and the French ---- Islands.[2] Being offered a poor resistence by the -- Bhonsle, the pindarees advanced into the British ---- territories. Their bold move saved Rughuji from -- further misdemeanours of the pindarees, as the -- British were forced to drive them out of their --- own districts as well as from that of the Bhonsle, in 1814. When Marquis of Hastings who was now the --- Governor-General found that Rughuji Bhonsle could not be inveigled into the Subsidiary Alliance he decided to drop the subject for the time being.[3]

Raja Rughuji being made free from the - pindari menace asked the Calcutta Government's ---- sanction to his plans of acquisitions in Bhopal and

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1. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Political Proceed- -ings, 9th February 1811, Proceeding No.45.
2. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.125.
3. Ibid. p.126.

Gurra Kotta.[1] The permission was refused but never--theless the Bhonsle sent an army against the fort of Gurra Kotta. The seige dragged on for some time without giving hopes of an early success. Jean ---- Baptiste Sindia's general on the other hand managed to enter the fort of by a ruse,[2] and took possession of it. He then sallied out with his army against the Berar force and defeated it. Thus the hopes of Rughuji in this quarter were put a stop to,forever.

As regards the territory of Bhopal which he had lost in 1809-10 when Mir Khan joined the Nawab against him; Rughuji was more successful by the end of 1810. With the help of the British force he recovr--ed the possession of Chynpoor Baree and Chowkeergarh.[3] But when the British failed to negotiate a peace with him and the Nawab,Raja Rughuji sought again the aid of Sindia to conquer and partition the remaining ----- districts, and partition them between themselves. After a length of time and an arrangement was concluded, and Sindia sent an army to join that of Rughuji, to lay a seige to the fort of Bhopal. From the November of 1813 to the July of 1814, the joint army made unsuccessful -

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1. Imperial Records,Foreign Department.Political Proceedings, 3rd January 1812,Proceeding No.55.(App.B.37).
2. Ibid., 7th June 1811,Proceeding No.60.
3. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories.p.126.

attempts, to reduce the fort, which was gallantly and stubbornly defended, by the brave and devoted Wazir Mahomed Khan and his band of Pathans.[1] The British - interfered at last, to prevent the surrender of the fort, when the last offer made by the Resident to Rughuji to the enter the Subsidiary Alliance was refused. The Calcutta Government decided to take Bhopal under - its suzerainty, with a view to making the fort a station for its troops, to serve as a check against the Pindarees. Though the Raja resented the British inter- -ference, he had not the strength to turn hostile against the British. He abandoned forever his designs against - Bhopal. A year after, when the British had failed to -- induce the Nawab into an agreement, which would allow - them to keep a force at Bhopal, Raja Rughuji did not start his hostilities against the Nawab over again.[2]

Even though Rughuji might have decided to move against Bhopal in the near future, he was not destined to do so. It was only a matter of months when he was - attacked by a severe illness. Rughuji died on the 22nd March 1816 at an age two months short of fifty six. He suffered much from pain and spasms in his chest, due to

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.127.

2. Ibid.

accumulations of water. From other symptoms it was concluded by the doctors that he also had some water in his head; it was wholly a case of universal dropsy. The Raja would not take any medicine nor follow other instructions of his doctors. To the last he expected to recover from his illness.[1]

RUGHUJI'S CHARACTER.

After Rughuji became an independent ruler, he showed certain characteristics which made him a powerful Raja. He revealed a deal of ambition, some enterprise, a love of independence and a sense of - his own importance. To achieve his ambitious aims, - he exhibited cunning, industry, business, ability and a minute and prying nature, goaded by an acute sense of jealousy. To his prime faults of avarice, parsimony and jealousy were added minor ones like timidity and vindictiveness. He could not obtain and true and -- faithful servants, because of his prying and jealous nature, and consequently his civil affairs were not very efficiently managed. Because he was not a soldier, was timid and parsimonious therefore his army though -

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1. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Proceedings. 15th April 1816, Proceeding No.1. (App.B.30). Nagpur Residency Records, XXVIII, L.No.392, (App.A.23).

at times large was not efficient and true, and did not prove successful at his time of great need. Rughuji was highly indulgent towards his own children, and those of his relatives, but his -- jealousy made him doubt the sincerity of his grown-up relations. He had very few friends but he showed a great regard for Nana Furnavis. He hated the English and when he failed to break their power he felt a great bitterness against them. It was from sheer political motive he kept a cordial inter- -course with them after the 1803 War. But if he could he would encourage secretly all hostile - attempts against them. His hatred of Sindia ---- however was overlooked afterwards for a common - cause. Similarly, he was not on friendly terms with Holkar but he was willing to put aside his aversion for patriotic aims.

CHAPTER VII.

PURSOJI - 1816-1817 A.D.

Raja Rughuji left one son who was thirty-eight years old when he died. He was of weak intellect if not demented, was blind and lame from paralysis. Owing to early indulgences and injudicious remedies he had applied to recover from bad diseases he had contracted, the young prince had gradually undermined a strong constitution. Because Pursoji was an invalid, it was necessary that some one should rule the kingdom for him. At the Court there were two parties, each under a leader who aspired to the position of the Regent of the State. One party supported the claim of Appa Sahib, the son of Vyankoji Bhonsle who died at Benares in 1811. He was the next in succession to the Musnud. Appa Sahib had the support of Naroba Chitnavis and some other ministers besides the recognition of the military Commanders. The other party supported the claims of the widow of Rughuji (not Pursoji's mother who was dead) and Goojaba Dada Gujar who was a nephew of Rughuji II by the female line. This party was supported by ----

1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.128.
2. Ibid.

Dhermaji Bhonsle a chela of the family, and a favourite of the late Raja. Pursoji himself favoured them --- because he was not on good terms with Appa Sahib his cousin. The Rani in possession of the State jewels and looking after the person of the invalid Raja, soon made herself the joint ruler with Goojaba Dada, of the -- Capital.[1]

But their enjoyment of the office of the Regent was very short-lived. Appa Sahib whose real - name was Mudhoji Bhonsle was an enterprising and bold man. With the support of the army and the executive - Officers of the State, he found no difficulty in -- ousting them by force, from the position they occupied. The Raja was taken in possession, and Appa Sahib began to rule in his name. Pursoji was formally installed on the Musnud in the middle of April.[2]

In his effort to become the Regent, Mudhoji had repeatedly called upon Richard Jenkins, who was - then the British Resident at the Nagpur Court, to send him help, but the Resident had ignored all such requests, because he did not want to involve his government in -

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.129.

2. Ibid.

such a partisan struggle,which might jeopardise the cause of the Subsidiary Alliance for the future.[1]

Even after Appa Sahib had attained to the position of the Regent,he was not fully secured about his future, because he feared a subversion. The cause of his fear lay in the knowledge,that the State had been for some time - now in certain disorder,which might be taken advantage of by a neighbouring ruler. So henceforth Appa Sahib's endeavours were,to settle his internal affairs,and --- procure the assistance of a strong ally.

In dealing with affairs at home, he found that the army was a very big one,and beyond the finances of the State to support. Also that it was not paid, for some time,and it clamoured for its arrears. The treasury was empty and his only hope lay in the revenue which was due to come in shortly,besides the State jewels,which he - wanted to reserve for an extreme emergency.[2]

Appa Sahib could have saved his finances from a - great drain on it,if he had the courage to reduce the army,but he feared to incur their unpopularity,when he was already disliked in many quarters,because he favoured

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories. p.129.
2. Ibid, p.130.

the British and sought their friendship to make sure of his position in the country.

When Jenkins learnt, that the conflict for the Regency was over, and Appa Sahib was the recognised - man at the helm of affairs, there was no reason left to evade his request for help. He opened the negotia- -tions for an alliance, but considering the moment opportune, he pressed on the Regent the same - Subsidiary Alliance which his uncle had so stubbornly refused. Mudhoji Bhonsle had no other remedy but to - accept the British help under the conditions, so that he could atleast be secured in his rule. He entered into the alliance for his cousin Pursoji Bhonsle on -the 28th April 1816.[1] By the clause of the treaty the Subsidiary force was stationed on the Nurbudda, but at Appa Sahib's own request an extra brigade of infantry was granted him and posted at the Capital. The payment for the subsidiary force of six battalions of infantry, a regiment of cavalry with artillery and pioneers was 7½ lakhs of rupees annually. If the money was not paid regularly, a part of the Nagpur territories was to be ceded on demand, which would fetch that sum.

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.130.

In addition to the above force the Raja had to maintain an army of 3000 horse and 2000 foot for the purpose of the alliance. This army was subject to the muster inspection and review of the Resident, who was to recommend on its equipment, discipline and pay all of which must be attended to.

On the 18th June the brigade for the Capital arrived at Nagpur, and the main body of the force -- encamped in the vicinity, previous to taking up a more advanced position for the rains.[1]

Following on Appa Sahib's alliance with the British, the Capital was active with intrigues against the Regent. Some of the intriguers even approached the Resident for help, which was naturally discouraged. Mudhoji found that his life was getting unsafe. He moved away to a garden house near the city and close to the new British Cantonment. The British force which was to have moved away from Nagpur for its monsoon quarters, was detained during the rains at the Capital, to give more weight to the Regent's authority.[2]

Appa Sahib remained in the garden house till

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.131.
2. Ibid.

the end of August. By then he had settled all the disputes at the Court, and won over the army to - his views. Considering it safe to return he --- entered the City again in September.

The main subsidiary force was transferred after the rains, to the banks of the Nurbudda. It was to guard the Rajas territories from the -- pindarees, in conjunction with the Raja's own --- contingent posted there. When the British force - reached the Nurbudda, it was joined by the Raja's army which consisted of cavalry. However the Maratha horse was so inefficient, that the British army --- could not cope with the depradations of the ------ pindarees, who infested the Nagpur territories.[1]

In the month of January of the next year, Appa Sahib left for Chanda to carry out there some business of the State. Whilst he was absent there - he was informed that his cousin Pursoji had died on the 1st of February 1817.[2] Though Pursoji died unexpectedly, there was not sufficient ground to - suspect that he was done away with. Whispers around and in the City of Nagpur accused Appa Sahib of -

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.131.

2. Nagpur Residency Records, XXVIII, L.No.587. (App.A.24).

murdering him so that he could succeed earlier to the Musmud. Such rumours of murder had prevailed when - Raja Raghuji died had died, but they were baseless and were the outcome of the vulgar love of marvel and intrigue, which was common to the Indian mind in those days.[1]

The death of Pursoji made Mudhoji Bhonsle's position in the country completely secure. He was the sole heir to the Musmud on which he immediately ascended as the next Bhonsle ruler of Nagpur.

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1. Jenkins Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.131-132.

CHAPTER VIII.

MUDHOJI OR APPA SAHIB - 1817-1818 A.D.

Mudhoji was publicly installed on the Musnud as the Raja of Nagpur on the 21st April 1817. His --- tranquil succession to the Gadi, and because he was -- now the disputed master of the Nagpur Territories,went to his head. Henceforth his behaviour and his ---- dealings in government matters, showed an overbearing sense of independence and arrogance. As for his --- treatment of the British Alliance, he was markedly - slighting and careless, as if to show that he needed - no more their help. In fact he neglected a great deal to - perform his engagements towards the terms of the recent treaty.[1]

As an open declaration, that he was the sole master of his domains, he made drastic changes in the personnel that managed his Government for him. He -- began by neglecting and badly treating all the --- ministers, who were instrumental in negotiating the Subsidiary Alliance,[2] and thus deprived himself of, -- able and experienced hands, who might have toned down

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1.Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.132.

2.G.Ramsay, Report on the Nagpur State, pp.1-9.

his arrogant zeal to be an independent Maratha ruler. Nagoo Punt and Narain Pundit were not given his confidence. Sadik Ali Khan, Ramchander Wag and Pursram Rao were - encouraged against the advice of the Resident. The Raja wanted to introduce Pursram Rao and Ramchander into the business with the Residency but Mr.Jenkins negatived the move. And when he strongly remonstrated for the neglect to Nagpx Nagoo Punt, the Raja placed him in office --- giving him Ramchander and Sadik Ali as the colleagues.[1]

In trying to avoid further his performance of the Treaty Appa Sahib was purposely irregular in his payments towards the expences of the British contingent.[2] He also opened and kept up a brisk correspondence with Baji Rao the Peshwa, and the Vakils of Holker and --- Sindia. When the Resident raised an objection for the Raja's intercourse with the other Maratha Chiefs and his proceedings at his Court, Appa Sahib agreed to send back the Vakils and also restore to office Narain --- Pundit. He however did not keep his word until the -- Resident threatened to take severe steps. Appa Sahib agreed to draw up a plan for the organisation and -- constitution of the contingent, dismissed the Vakils and withdrew his own from the Poona Court.[3] He also --

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.132.
   C.Ramsay, Report on the Nagpur State, p.20.
2. Ibid.
3. C.Ramsay, Report on the Nagpur State, p.20.

delivered an order to place Hoshangabad in the hands of Col.Adams.

The above reconciliation was reached because Appa Sahib had learnt that the Peshwa Baji Rao had entered into another peaceful agree--ment with the British. For a short time after--wards the Bhonsle's dealings with the Residency was extremely cordial.[1]

In the following months of July and -- August the Resident had after some negotiations induced the Raja to furnish some Military help to the British in their general and extensive drive - against the pindaree menace which threatened to break all chances of a peace in India by destroy--ing well settled Government organisations of the different States in the country. To lull the --- suspicions of the British Resident he did not -- waver in his friendly intercourse with the ----- Residency and at times cunningly contrived ways to put him off his doubts about the Raja's sincerity of purpose.[2]

In October when Sir John Malcolm visited

1.G.Ramsay,Report on the Nagpur State, pp.20-21.
2.Jenkins,Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.133.

Nagpur he reported that the Raja usually failed to keep his promises and it was expected that the recent assembling of the Peshwa's troops at Poona was a signal for Appa Sahib to prepare his army as well. The Resident had learnt from undoubted authority that he even invited the pindarees to attack the British, and at the same time spread rumours that those freebooters intended raiding Nagpur.[1]

The Residents suspicions about the Raja's designs were strengthened, when he learnt of the declaration of war by the Peshwa in the first week of November. Two weeks later they were confirmed when he was invited on the 23rd instant to take part in a ceremony which was to be performed in honour of the Khelut or honorary dress which had been sent to the Raja by Baji Rao. Appa Sahib had desired that if the Resident was not able to attend he should depute some other person and in honour of the occasion fire a salute from the British Cantonment.[2]

The Resident could not comply with the Raja's

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1. G.Ramsay, Report on the Nagpur State, pp.20-21.
2. Extracts from the Military Calendar, III, p.161.

wishes when he had learnt that the Peshwa was at War with the British. On the other hand he sent a letter of advice which explained that the Raja's acceptance of an honour from the enemy of the - British would be an act of complicity and a show of hostility against the British, consequently - such an honour should be refused and the peaceful relations with the British preserved.[1]

However in the direct opposition to the advice of the Resident, the Raja proceeded to - follow the course of policy recommended by those of his ministers who were inimical to the English alliance. He caused himself to be publicly invest-ed with the honorary dress sent by him by the - Peshwa Baji Rao and also accepted a commission - from the Poona Government creating him the ----- Commander-in-Chief of the Maratha armies. Appa - Sahib then mounted his elephant and addressed his principal Sirdars ~~their~~ telling them that his -- honour was henceforth deposited in their hands - and that he placed his trust in them alone." His speech concluded the Raja surrounded by his troops[2]

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1. Extracts from the Military Calendar, III, pp.151-153.
2. Ibid.

proceeded in State to the camp at Suckurdura. The Zuree Putka was displayed, the army was drawn up, salutes were fired from the artillery Stations - around the Camp and in short nothing was omitted - which could add more to the pomp of the ceremony.

On the following morning of the 25th --- all communication with the Residency was prohibited. The Resident's harcaras were refused permission to carry a letter to the Durbar. The markets were - shut against English troops and followers, and it seemed probable the difficulty of obtaining --- intelligence of what was going on in the Maratha - Camp would render the precautions taken to prevent a sudden attack on the Residency of no avail;still it was judged best to delay taking any decisive -- measures as long as possible.[1]

By 12 O'Clock the Residency was approached by a body of Mareths horse numbering 20000 from the Camp at Bokur, about five miles in the north wester--ly direction of the City. Rumours were spread -- that the Pindarees were approaching to attack. Consternation and confusion spread in the City and

1.Extracts from the Military Calendar, III, pp.153-154.

the suburb of Sitabaldi. The Resident fully expecting an attack on the Residency sent orders to Lieut-Col. Scott who was in charge of a force stationed at -- Telinkhery three miles away, to take possession of the Sitabaldi hills. In the meantime to prevent the Marathas from occupying them the Resident ordered - Captain Lloyd with a small force of 400 men to seize the advantageous position.[1]

Between 3 and 4 O'Clock Capt,Lloyd was -- informed that a troop of Arabs were marching to -- Sitabaldi. Fearing an attack the troops were ordered to take possession of the tombs on the east end of - the large hill. The following hours of the evening - were spent without any hostile action from the ---- Marathas who were surprised at the bold action of - Lieut-Col.Scott who took a complete possession of the hills. The British force under Lloyd on the -- hills was thus enlarged by the addition of these - troops of the 6th Regiment Bengal Bengal Cavalry, four 6-pounder cannons and two battalions of infantry.[2] On the morning of the 26th the British force was --

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1.Extracts from the Military Calendar, III, p.154.
2.Ibid. p.155.

distributed in different locations. The Marathas - were busy in bringing up their artillery around the hills to the points of vantage but these artillery - movements were carried on without the support of the troops. If the British had at once launched on an -- action they might have succeeded in capturing many of those guns. But they desisted because they were not strong enough to carry on a prolonged battle. They wanted to delay an action till reinforcements - reached them. About sunset the Marathas had completed their arrangements and so the Raja sent two of his - ministers to Richard Jenkins, the Resident to ---- represent his various grievances. But as the discus- -sions were proceeding the action had already begun, it was supposed owing to some accidental firing from the Maratha Camp.[1]

The British army was in possession of an ad advantageous site. The British Residency lay to the -- west of the City of Nagpur and immediately in front of it stood the two hills of Sitabaldi running north to - south and separating it from the former. These - two hills were distant from one another by little over

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1. Extracts from the Military Calendar, III, pp.155-156.

Sitabaldi Fort and the old Residency near it

Sitabaldi Fort

30 yards. The hill which was nearest to the Residency was the larger and higher than the other away from it. The smaller one had not, any naturally defensive --- features and so most of the following battle was -- concentrated there. The eastern side of the larger hill had been scrapped away 30 ~~yards~~ yds., from the summit, to form a deep and extensive quarry. On its --- other sides it was accessible to an infantry charge - like the sides of the smaller hill. The British right was on the larger hill and its left on the smaller - one. The 1st battalion 20th Regiment and a company of the 24th facing south and east were posted on the --- larger hill whose western extremity was also guarded by a 100 men of the Nagpur Escort and a 6-pounder. The smaller hill was in the possession of 300 men of the 24th Regiment and two 6-pounders. Their line -- extended from east to west. The remaining small number of men guarded the Residency and a few houses around - it. The three troops of the Bengal cavalry occupied the fields near the Residency.

THE BATTLE OF SITABALDI.

26th Novr.1817 A.D. The Battle which had begun so suddenly opened

1.Extracts from the Military Calendar, III, pp.156-158.

with a steady and heavy firing from both sides. The Marathas who had placed their artillery well, caused much damage in the British ranks though they them--sèlves suffered less because of their guarded ---- position among the huts which were situated all -- along the eastern front and close to the hills. Of Appa Sahib's army his band of efficient, courageous and daring Arabs was most conspicuous in action. They were instrumental in causing whatever the -- British might suffered and were the only means by which most of the British xattun left was destroyed, and the small hill captured. The British left had - kept up an accurate fire to dislodge the Arabs from the strong cover they occupied in front of them. Their efforts failed, and their rank had so thinned down and was exuuu exhausted that the British --- Commander ordered the 100 men of the Nagpur Escort who had not entered the action completely yet, with 50 soldiers of the 20th Regiment to relieve them. The reinforcement helped the left very much. By early in the morning the Marathas had slackened in their -- firing. This gave the British left an opportunity to complete an improvised breastwork made up of bags

1. Extracts from the Military Calendar, III, pp.158-160.

of grains.

28th Nov.1817 A.D. By daybreak the Maratha army renewed a more furious and heavier discharge from their -- cannons and musketry. Their attack was now concen--trated more on the smaller hill. The breastwork saved the British from musket balls but the shots from the extra number of cannons brought up to -- concentrate there made up by causing more damage. The British could not retaliate in the same manner as they had only one 6-pounder left because the - other had blown up,last night. Still the soldiers stood their grounds till 10 O'Clock in the morning, when the position of their cannon made it useless - to function and Capt.Lloyd following the advice of the Artillery Officer ordered it to be brought to the rear. The Arabs had just then set fire to the lines of the Nagpur Escort and when they saw the field piece withdrawn they concluded that the British troops intended abandoning their post. In extreme exultation they at once charged up the hill in front and on the flanks. The suddenness and -- rapidity of their movements gave no opportunity to

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1.Extracts from the Military Calendar, III, pp.160-162.

the British soldiers to give them a stubborn pust front and repel them. Capt.Lloyd ordered the men to fire and jumped out of the breastwork to meet the - Arabs. Very few men followed his example and the - rest made a hasty retreat towards the British right. Whilst retreating some brave men turned to give a - check to the onslaught but it was useless, the -- Arabs were too many and fought too bravely, whilst most of the British soldiers were flying. The hill was taken. The Arabs turned the only British gun against them and caused further damage.[1]

The British right all these hours had not suffered much. The Marathas had occupied the village on the south by daybreak and were busy directing a fire from that side. However their shots coming --- from the east and the south did less damage owing to the elevation of the ground.

In the meantime the Maratha cavalry since - 10 O'Clock in the night had taken up positions all around the Residency. Each batch of the horse was supported easily by easily moveable artillery.[2] They

1.Extracts from the Military Calendar, III, p.162.
2.Ibid. pp.162-163.

did not close with the British cavalry but kept up a distant fire and an occasional skirmish. However when on the next day they saw that the small hill had been captured they made a definite move to overwhelm the British horse near the Residency. They were closing in on them when Capt. Fitzgerald with the orders from his Commander took the offensive away from their hands and charged with the British cavalry himself. Lieut. Hearsey with a few horse made a dash against two of their guns which had been brought very near and were annoying them for some time. Both the Officers carried through their attacks successfully. The Maratha horse were driven away and the two guns were brought to the Residency.[1]

The success of the Cavalry heartened greatly the British Force troops on the Sitabaldi hill. To emulate their comrades-in-arms they opened a deadly fire on the Arabs on the small hill. Their enemies unable to stand against such a discharge took shelter within the breastwork of grains and in the lines of the escort.[2] Then followed the

1. Extracts from the Military Calendar, III, pp.163-164.
2. Ibid.

chance blowing up of the timber of the Maratha field-piece on the small hill. The opportunity was fateful and of which the animated British troops took an instantaneous advantage. The men of the Nagpur Escort, the 24th and 20th Regiments - moved in a compact Mass to the attack. Their zealous and - determined movement bore everything before it. The Arabs were driven away from the hill where they were in a confus--ed position. But not satisfied with the taking of the hill the British Officers, Capt.Lloyd and Capt.W.Stone led their victorious men to the village from where all their troubles in the night before had begun. The Arabs were driven away from there as well, and the Maratha guns were either -- brought back or spiked.

But when the British soldiers returned from the - village the Arabs tried to occupy it which Capt.Moxon who was now in charge of the escort because Capt.Lloyd was - severely wounded would not let them. The cannons which had taken an accurate range were ordered to fire on them. And whilst they were in a loose order Cornet Smith with a troop of cavalry charged through the village cut off many of them and dispersed the rest. By noon the Arabas were no more to be seen.[1] The Maratha bombardment had slackened and by --

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1.Extract from the Military Calendar,III,p.163-65.

3 O'Clock it ceased entirely. The Battle of Sitabaldi a very tiring encounter for the small British force turned out a glorious victory for them.[1] The Maratha - Raja who had employed about 10000 cavalry and over -- 6000 infantry of which 3 to 4000 were Arabs,lost about -- 400 men in the battle. His Arabs and some of his 35 guns took proportionately a heavier toll from the British army of 1706 men. The casualties amounted to 365 men including sixteen British Officers.[2]

Decr.1817 A.D. Having lost the Battle of Sitabaldi,Raja -- Mudhoji sent a petition to the Resident asking for an -- amicable settlement of their affairs. The Resident agreed and the communications were begun.[3] They continued till the - arrival of General Doveton who hurried from Jafferabad by way of Ellichpur,Umraoti,Sheergaon and reached Nagpur on the 12th December.[4] Jenkins doubted the conduct of the Raja and since he had received no instructions from the Governor- -General he determined on bringing the matters to some -- decision. He sent terms of peace which demanded that since the Raja by his conduct had put his whole State at the mercy of the British so he must abide by their decisions. He must disband the Arab mercenaries and surrender his artillery. His army was to leave the City of Nagpur and gather in an

1.Extract from the Military Calendar,III,p.105-66.
2.Reprint of Documents about the Battle of Sitabaldi,p.30.
3.Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories,p.133.
4.Reprint of Documents about the Battle of Sitabaldi,p.31.

allotted place. The British troops were to occupy the City which was to be given up after the signing of the - Treaty. All property was to be respected, and the ----- ministers were to continue in their office. Raja Mudhoji himself was to reside in the British Camp where he would be treated with appropriate indulgence, till his affairs were finally settled and he was restored to his Musnud. The Raja was not to be deprived of any of his lands except those to pay towards the expenses of the Subsidiary force.[1] Mudhoji objected to the demand about the surrender of his person. The Resident was however adament over this clause because he knew that if the Rajas person was secured all hostilities would cease and leave General Doveton's army free to proceed either against the Peshwa or join the -- advance army against the Pindarees.[2]

When the Bhonsle found the Resident unflinching -in his demands he reluctantly consented to all of them on the 15th December. After a delay of some hours he came into the British Camp on the morning of the 16th at 9 O'Clock. From the British Camp Raja Mudhoji sent out orders to his men to place all the Nagpur artillery in the hands of --- General Sowestone Dovetone.[3]

1.Report on the Nagpur Territories (G.Ramsay),p.22.

2.Jenkins,Report on the Nagpur Territories,p.138.

3.G.Ramsay,Report on the Nagpur Territories,p,22.

Accompanied by the Raja's Agent Doveton led his whole army, in battalion columns of divisions,followed by the different reserves in line, to take possession of the Bhonsle's artillery. The General was faced with opposition. The first battery though drawn up for action was taken by surprise. Lt.-Col.Scott was left in charge and the General proceeded against the others. After they had advanced some distance a heavy fire was opened on - them from the troops posted in the Suckurdurra gardens. This was followed by a disch general discharge from the remaining batteries.The batteries facing the body of - infantry were overpowered by a gallant charge at the - points of bayonets. Most of the British cavalry with - horse artillery took a detour round a tank immediately in front of the Suckurdurra gardens, and charged the - batteries there, which had opened fire on them. Their attack was continued after the guns were captured, against a big number of cavalry which faced them. The Maratha -- horse was driven away and pursued till they were entirely broken. A few of the Maratha guns which still fired here and there were soon silenced and by 1 O'Clock the whole of the Maratha guns and Camp equipage with upwards of 40 --- elephants was in the possession of the British army.[2]

The above resistence to the Raja's orders was

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1. Papers of the Maratha & Pindaree Wars,p.148.

2. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories,p.134.
   Papers of the Maratha & Pindaree Wars,p.148.

offered by two of his officers Gompat Rao and Ranu Bhut. But the defeat would not discourage them to give up. They fortified themselves within the walls of the City and its fort.[1] On the 21st the British batteries opened -- against the town from a commanding position, on the banks of the Jumma Talao. But the old palace wall could not be breached, so the General ordered a fire to be directed - against the Jumma Durwaza, which laid open, would allow them to establish troops in an advanced position there. On the evening of the 23rd some effect was made on the gate and a sufficient breach for a safe admission was - expected to be made by the following morning. Doveton - prepared for a combined attack; on the gate, on the Tulsi Bag and at another advanced position.

About half past eight in the morning the troops attacked in all three directions. At the gate the breach did ~~not~~ not prove itself sufficient, to allow a section to enter at once, and the enemy Arabs sheltered in stone houses on both sides of the street, kept up a deadly fire on the entering men. After a valiant effort it was found useless to attempt further, so the General ordered a -- resumption of the old position.[2] Lieut-Col. Scott leading the force against the Tulsi Bag faired better though he

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.134.
2. Papers of the Maratha & Pindaree Wars, p.178.

found the area too extensive and exposed to the fire from the wall of the town. The General deeming the loss of - lives in that direction useless when the gate was not — taken, ordered Scott to withdraw. Similarly Major Pitman was called back from the 3rd place of attack which was the least important of all.

But by this time the Arabs had enough of the - warfare, which had led them to nothing decisive. Their - leaders sent word to treat for peace. The request being granted their principal man came out to negotiate.[1] A ---- satisfactory agreement was reached by which they evacuated the City in the afternoon of the 30th December. The City was occupied and a British flag was flying on the old -- palace on the same day.[2]

1818.A.D. The surrender of the City ended the War with the Bhonsles. The Resident had now to concentrate on the future management of this territory. On the 22nd January he receiv- -ed orders from Lord Hastings the Governor-General that the grandson of the late Raghuji II be placed on the Musnud, - instead of Appa Sahib because of that prince's treachery and the distrust in which he was held at Nagpur. But the - Resident supported the reinstatement of Appa Sahib on the

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1. Papers of the Marathas & Pindaree Wars,p.175.

2. Jenkins,Report on the Nagpur Territories,p.194.
Papers of the Marathas & Pindaree Wars,p.175.

grounds of the general maxims of British policy towards the Bhonsles. Besides, the British had to take into - consideration that it was owing to Appa Sahib they had obtained the Subsidiary Alliance. The Resident considered the actions of the Raja in the light of his youth and - inexperience, which had been taken advantage by the Peshwa and the other Maratha Chiefs. Also it was expedient that - the Nagpur territories should be settled to a peaceful State, which could not be achieved if the British placed the grandson of Raghuji II on the throne, whose party - strength in the City was very weak, and the supporters of Appa Sahib would naturally keep up the City in a state of unrest.[1]

So after further negotiations an engagement was entered into on the 6th January. The terms of the settlement demanded that "the Raja must cede all lands on the north of - the Nurbudda as well as some on the south with all his - rights in Berar, Gawilgarh, Sirguja and Jushpur in lieu of the subsidy and the Contingent. The Raja's civil and - military affairs of the Government should be conducted by the ministers in the confidence of the British Government and according to the advice of the Resident. The Raja with his family should reside in the palace at Nagpur under the

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1. G.Ramsay, Report on the Nagpur State, p.23.

protection of the British troops. The arrears of the subsidy should be paid up until the final transfer of the abovementioned territories had taken place. That any forts in the territories which the British might wish to occupy must be given up; that the person whom he described as principally resisting his orders should if possible be seized and delivered up to the British. The two hills of Sitabaldi with the bazaars and an adequate portion of land adjoining should be ceded to the British Government which should be at liberty to erect on them such military works as might be deemed necessary."[1]

These conditions being agreed to Appa Sahib was allowed to proceed to his palace on the 9th January. Both the palace and the city was garrisoned by British troops. The ladies of the palace who with jewels and other --- valuable effects of the State which all served as ----- security had been placed at Bhandara 37 miles east of -- Nagpur, were now escorted to the palace on the 19th January by a detachment of British troops. By the end of January with few exceptions all terms were fulfilled and Governor-General also confirmed the Resident's Treaty.[2]

In little more than a month the troubles at Nagpur

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.194.
2. C.G. Ramsay, Report on the Nagpur State, p.28.
   Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Political Proceedings, Secret Consultations, 9th January 1818, Cons. Nos. 5 & 18.

were settled peacefully. Doveton left on the 22nd with the main body of his army. Gawilgarh and Narnalla were surrendered to him on Appa Sahib's orders.[6]

On the Narbudda General Hardiman and Col.McMorine were successful near Jubbulpur and Sreenugur on the 19th December 1817 and on the 15th January 1818 respectively. The whole ceded territory was brought under control by the end of January with the exception of Dhamoni, Chaura--garh and Mundla.[1]

Though shorn of much of his powers Appa Sahib did not keep his peace. He countermanded official orders to the Gonds that they must not surrender Chauragarh and Mundla. He also ordered the Killedar of Chanda to --- recruit new troops and send word to Baji Rao to come to his help.

1818 A.D. The Resident becoming aware of Appa Sahib's designs arrested him on the eve of his escape from Nagpur to Chanda where he intended joining with the Peshwa on the 15th March and brought him a prisoner to the Residency. The Raja and his ministers Nago Pundit confessed their plans -- Appa Sahib's guilt of his murder of Parsoji Bhonsle -- also came to light.[2]

1.Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories,p.135.

2.Ibid, p.135
G.Ramsay,Report on the Nagpur State,pp.23-24.

[6]Imperial Records, Foreign Department,Political Proceedings, Secret Consultations, 21st March 1818,Cons.No.37.

Baji Rao the Peshwa, who was coming to the help of Mudhoji Bhonsle, reached with his van the river Wardha near Chanda on the 2nd April 1818. Here the Peshwa was checked from entering the City of Chanda by the force under ---- Col.Scott who was sent to keep him busy, till Col.Adams who had been called by the Nagpur Resident to proceed against Baji Rao, joined him.[1]

A short time afterwards Col.Adams joined the small detachment under Col.Scott and they jointly attacked the -- Peshwa and defeated him.[6] Later considering the possession of the Fort of Chanda advantageous to the British interest they laid seige to it.

The taking of the Fort of Chanda was delayed. Lt.Col. Adams wrote to the Resident at Nagpur asking him to send - fifteen and eighteen pounder shots for the storming of the fort.[2] On the arrival of the ammunition the fort was stormed and taken in May 1818. Later in the fort a hidden treasure worth 8 lakhs was found by some officers.[3]

The operations against the Forts of Dhamoni,Chaura--gurh and Mandla also proved successful. General Marshall took Dhamoni in the month of March. The Fort of Chauragark which had given Lt.Col.Macmorine some trouble, surrendered in May when -

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1.Jenkins,Report on the Nagpur Territories,p.135.
2.Nagpur Residency Records,Vol.XLI,4th May 1818,No.137 & 164.
3.Ibid, 22nd June 1818,XLI,No.217.
6.Imperial Records,Foreign Department,Political Proceedings, Secret Consultations, 8th May 1818,Cons,No.38.

General Watson after taking Mundla hurried to his help with his division.[1]

Though most of the military operations had thus come to an end, the disturbances were not over. The Gonds had not yet been subjugated and when Appa Sahib escaped from the armed escort which was conducting him to Allahabad, he took shelter amongst them. They received him kindly and showed a willingness to fight for him. During the monsoon, Appa Sahib collected a fairly large sum army of Gonds, Arabs and Pindarees.[2] Of these the Arabs were the only efficient fighting men the rest being an irregular body of soldiers. With this army under him Appa Sahib took possession of the ceded country above the ghauts to the westward. Here he collected more men from the straggling body of soldiers thrown out of employment at Nagpur.[3]

But the opposition which these men offered the different detachments sent against them was very feeble. The active and spirited actions of the British soldiers dispersed most of them, except the force that was under Appa Sahib himself. Even the men under him were dwindling away, because the losses of the Bhonsle's other detachments and their being cut off in the hills had reduced them to a

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1. Nagpur Residency Records, 13th May 1818, XLI, No.156.
2. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.136.
3. Ibid, p.138.
4. Imperial Records. Foreign Department. Political Proceedings. Secret Consultations. 5th June 1818, Cons. No.59.

destitute condition.They had not been paid regularly and suffered from the scarcity of food.[1] By the end of January 1819 Appa Sahib's army had reduced to 2000 men. Most of these men were Arabs and they were turning unmanageable and turbulent. The Bhonsle was then forced to consider his position and the security of his life. He decided to effect his escape. Appa Sahib deceived the Arabs by informing them that he was going down to the village of Puggara at the - bottom of the Pachmari Hills to settle their monetary -- troubles. Coming down to Puggara he stayed there for four days and in the meantime by presents and promises he won over Sheikh Abdulla (the Arab Chief) and the Pindaree leaders Dajee and Cheetoo. With their help he effected his escape.[2]

Appa Sahib fled towards Asseergarh with whose -- Killedar he had kept up a friendly intercourse for some - time. Near that Fort his small following came in conflict - with a British detachment from ~~the~~ Gwalior.[3] After a short skirmish the flying band took shelter in Asseergarh where they were cordially received by Sindia's Killedar Jeswunt Rao Laur. The Forts garrison sallied out to attack the British force, but could not achieve a success.

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1. Nagpur Residency Record,14th February 1819,XXXIX,No.41.
2. Ibid, 14th February 1819,XXXIX,No.41.
3. Ibid, 5th March 1819,XXXIX, No.59.

For this action,of the Killedar the Resident at Sindia's Court remonstrated with the Raja and asked that the Killedar should surrender himself with the fugitives.[1] However sometime passed and the Killedar refused to obey orders or come to any terms. The British army then invested Asseergarh.[2] But a few days afterwards Appa Sahib alluded - the British army and made good his escape to Hindustan.[3] For some years afterwards Appa Sahib was not heard of at all except on an occasion or two when he was reported to be a fugitive in Hindustan.

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1. Nagpur Residency Records, 5th March 1819,XXXIX,No.59.
2. Ibid, 18th March 1819, XXXIX,No.72.
3. Jenkins,Report on the Nagpur Territories,p.136.

CHAPTER IX.

RAGHUJI III.- 1818-1853 A.D.

THE REGENCY OF THE BRITISH.

1818 A.D. After the escape of Appa Sahib from the --- British escort, the British Resident at Nagpur was kept busy about the management of the Government affairs in the City. Richard Jenkins who was still the Resident, desired that the Government should be left in native hands. After some delibe--rations, he selected Sadik Ali Khan for his ability and - experience and because of his attachment to the British - Government, to take charge of the affairs of the State,under certain limitations. The Resident did not leave complete - powers in his hands, because of a fear of misappropriation.[1] He placed the British officers as Superintendents, ------ through whom all Sadik Ali's orders must pass, to have the concurrence of the Resident. That such orders when in execu--tion, were to be under the direct scrutiny of the British - agent. The business of the Court,the palace,City collections, and judicial affairs were left in the hands of one Superinten--dent.[2] Another managed the finances to secure due payment of the troops and revealed money transactions. There was also a Superintendent for the City Police, when the British troops occupied it.[3] And as regards the affairs of the ----

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1. Imperial Records.Foreign Department.Secret Proceedings. 5th September 1818,Proceeding No.18.
2. Jenkins,Report on the Nagpur Territories,p.302.
3. Ibid. pp.302-3.

territories, Deogarh, Chanda and Chhutteesgarh were each sent a Superintendent with more or less the powers of - the Subahdars of the old days. Along with these checks the British had a further surety in the person of the army, which was completely in his control.[1]

However after a short time the Resident discovered, that Sadik Ali deeply resented and was hurt, at so much check on his authority. He henceforth behaved in the manner of a - different man. His methods of dealing with the British Govern--ment changed. He left all his actions and proceedings in a state of mystery and darkness which made matters difficult for the Resident. After having warned him with remonstrances, the Resident found, that Sadik Ali still persisted in his -- evasive methods, he decided transferring all the executive powers of the Nagpur Government into his own hands.[2]

Just a short time back, the question of the succes--sion to the Musnud, had been settled by adoption. Appa Sahib's widow Durgabai according to the Maratha custom, adopted the son of Nana Gujar, who had married the late Raghuji II's -- daughter Bunnabai. This young prince was formally raised to the Nagpur Gadi on the 26th June 1818 with the usual ---- ceremonies and assumed the name of his grandfather Raghuji.

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp302-3.
2. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Secret Proceedings, 5th September 1818, Proceeding No.18.

The young ruler was about nine years old when he ascended the Musnud. This made it necessary for the Resident to - appoint a guardian from his family,to perform the functions of the Court and the Raja's household. The Raja's grand- -mother Barabai was appointed to that post, and at her -- request Goojaba Dada the ex-Raja's cousin was selected to assist her.[1] Nominally they were known as the Regent and the Vice-Regent, bit in fact the Regency was after the - deposition of Sadik Ali in the hands of the British Resident.[2]

As regards the system of Government which the - Resident intended adopting, now that he had taken over - control was to leave, "inviolate the whole of the ancient forms of administration both judicial and financial; and in general endeavour to bring about improvement not by - introductions but by restoring to their original efficiency those existing institutions to which the inhabitants of the country have become habituated and attached."[3] The Resident's endeavours henceforth were to make the State reimburse the British expenses for protecting it, as well as contribute a share, towards those expenses incurred by the British, for the general tranquillity, besides maintaining its own

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1. Imperial Records,Foreign Department,Political Proceedings, Secret Consultations, V.445,6th February 1819,L.No.89.
2. Jenkins,Report on the Nagpur Territories,pp.136-37.
3. Imperial Records,Foreign Department,Political Proceedings, Secret Consultations,V.445,6th February 1819,L.No.89.

civil and military establishments. The present acquisitions would not suffice to pay their own expenses, and a further demand would not be sufficient for the State's management, consequently the British must wait, till their own efforts made the country pay sufficiently for the wants of both sides.

The military establishment of the Raja, which was a great drain on the revenue, was to be made up of -- 3000 horse, a brigade of regular infantry with artillery and three provincial corps of irregulars for Deogarh, Chanda and Chhutteesgarh. Most respectable Maratha and Muhomedan Chiefs were provided for in the horse. There was created a pay and an audit office for the Raja's troops and an assistant for the Resident to conduct military affairs and correspondence. The Raja's Paga and the ratinue of his relations composed his own body-guard. The Seebundies with the above were included in the Civil list.[1] The British officers who managed revenue and magisterial affairs were called Superintendents. For the official duties in the City, Capt.Bayley was appointed as Paymaster to the Raja's troops and auditor of military disbursements, at the pay per month of 1500 Rupees - Dr.Gordon was appointed as Treasurer and

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories,pp.309-10

Collector of City duties at the pay per month of 2000 Rs. - Major Mackenzie with the monthly pay of Rs.1000 was made Superintendent of Police and Judicial matters in the City.- The City's Police Corps being in an inefficient and disorderly condition were put under British officers. The Resident -- reserved for himself, the duties of the Supreme Supervisor and Judge. To him all causes involving large property, were to be appealed to, for final judgment. In like manner, small but unusual criminal cases were to be brought before him for final decision. Any one desiring redress from grievances, was given an easy access to represent his case to the Residents In this manner the Resident hoped, to check abuses and --- corruption.[1]

The above plan of the Resident, was fully approved of by the Supreme Government at Calcutta and he - received the necessary sanction for the duties from the -- Governor-General.[2] Henceforth the Government of the Nagpur State was proclaimed by the Resident to be in British hands who were to work in the interests of the Raja.

For the following eight years the Nagpur State remained under the management of British officers. This -

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1. Imperial Records, Foreign Department, Political Proceedings Secret Consultations, V.445, 6th February 1819, L.No.89.

2. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.137.

period saw the State enjoying tranquillity and advancing gradually to a state of prosperity.[1] Richard Jenkins,had continued in the office as the Resident. However after his long term of service, he made an application in 1826 for a permission to retire to England. The Governor-General would not grant him leave, stating that the time had now arrived, when the administration of the Nagpur territory, ought to be handed over to the charge of Raja Raghuji. The Governor-General sent him directions,for drawing up of a treaty with the Raja, when a part of the government would be entrusted to his care. The Resident was also - asked, to create a competent ministry to help Raghuji in conducting the affairs of the State.[2]

To such a transfer of authority, Jenkins raised an objection, because he considered the time inopportune and the Raja not experienced enough,to manage the govern-ment of the State. He was only eighteen years old and had not acquired sufficient knowledge and wisdom, which youths of his age usually have. He shirked serious work, though he had learnt to read and write, with certain household accounts. He knew Persian as a second language. The -- Judicial Department which was to be his main branch of work, was not appealing to him. On the other hand he was

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories,p.321.
2. G.Ramsay,Report on the Nagpur State,p.25.

addicted to purile amusements. He was of mild temper, docile and not incapable of learning.[1]

The Resident did not wish to prolong this period of British management, because he knew of the danger and difficulty the native rulers would have with the British rule was unnecessarily lengthened. Besides the formation of a capable ministry was extremely difficult to achieve. The Governor-General however, brushed aside the Residents objection and demanded that the transfer must be carried out, because the Government at Calcutta had passed resolutions, in conjunction with the Home Government towards that end.[2]

In obedience to the orders, Jenkins drew up the Treaty,which was signed in full Durbar, by the Raja, on the 1st December 1826. It was later ratified by Lord Amherst as the Governor-General. Nevertheless, the Resident had introduced terms in such a fashion that he transferred the internal management of the State in a limited sense to the native government, whilst the British still remained to supervise important districts and Departments of the State. He wanted to leave the country, in a sound working order, till the Raja became a full major after five to six years. To prepare for the complete

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.321.
2. G.Ramsay, Report on the Nagpur State, p.25.

transition the Resident decided, that the Raja should be initiated into the intricacies of the government, when he had finished his 21st year. And to have a suitable person to conduct the Revenue Department in the future, the Resident decided on selecting a candidate to qualify for that post. Similarly persons were to be selected for the post of Suddar Furnavis and Wurar Pandia. Thus the - provisions of the Treaty came to be as follows:-

1. The articles of the 1816 Treaty were to -- remain in force except contrary to the terms of this - Treaty.

2. The Raja must renounce his allegiance to the Satara, ruler and have no connection with the other Maratha powers. He must discontinue all ceremonies respecting his relations with them and also about his title of the Sena Sahib Subah. If he complied to abandon these ceremonies he could use his title of the Sena Sahib Subah.

3. Raghuji must not communicate with the other States except through the Resident and neither should he exchange Vakils with any other Court.

4. The British had the right to decrease or increase his military force which they could post wherever they thought it was necessary or proper to do so.

5. The Raja was to cede in perpetuity renounc- -ing his or his heirs' claims to territories assigned by

1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.325-26.

Appa Sahib for the payment towards the Subsidiary Force's expense and for the subsidy of Rs.750000 formerly paid, for the contingent he was bound to keep up. In return the British Government guaranteed to him and his heirs and - successors the enjoyment of the Nagpur dominions.

6. The Bhonsle was to grant in exchange, territories more conveniently situated, to those already ceded, if the British Government thought it proper to demand.

7. The administration was to be transferred to him, as he came of age, under certain conditions hereafter to - be specified.

8. The military force of the Raja with the excep- -tion of the small force for the purpose of the State, and some Seebundies for those of revenue collections, is to remain under the British Government. The money sufficient for his expenses was to be furnished from the Raja's resources. He was also to pay the British officers in the Civil Depart- -ments.

9. The districts of Chanda, Deogarh above the - ghauts, Ranjhee, Chhutteesgarh and other dependencies were to be retained under European Superintendents. The surplus revenue from these districts which yielded 17 lakhs of - Rupees, after paying the civil and military charges was to be forwarded to the Raja. Raghuji was henceforth to manage

the remaining districts including the Nagpur City. When in the future the Raja showed better ruling abilities, the - reserved lands in the hands of the British Superintendents, was to be transferred to his care. Proper provisions were to be made, for the expenses of the military force and the -- British Government was to manage his foreign relations with the other Indianpowers and the Feudatory Chiefs.

10. The Raja was to conduct his affairs with the aid of ministers in British confidence;and was to be held - responsible for the welfare of the country. He was to ratify all engagements, entered into by the British officers with the ryots etc. He was to adopt regulations and ordinances - recommended by the British Government and the advice of whose representatives to appoint officers was to be followed. The expenses of the Civil Departments, of the Court and the -- Raja's household was to be fixed according to British advice. The Resident was to have a free access to the Treasury and inspection of the accounts.

11. In case of war, the Raja was to pay towards the expenses, in proportion to his actual revenue, which sum would be fixed by the British Government.

12. Should the British Government find, that the Raja had, owing to his neglect of the advice reduced for the future, the funds which go to pay the permanent force, or his share during a war or find a deterioration instead of an --

increase in revenue, the British Government will resume the portion or whole of his territory under its immediate superintendence.

13. According to the 12th Article, if the Rajas orders fail to be issued within ten days, the British Govern--ment was to resume authority, but a full and true account of the expenditure and revenue was to be rendered to the Raja, and a fifth part of the net revenue secured to him as his annual income.

14-17. These Articles stipulated about the fortifi--cations of Sitabaldi, the occupation of forts and strong places, if necessary.[1]

In fact the management of the country, owing to the provisions of the Treaty, was still greatly in the hands of the British Resident who was the sole executive who represented the Raja in all government dealings.

On the 29th December 1826 Richard Jenkins who had been the Resident at the Nagpur Court, for so many years, retired. He gave over the charge to Capt.Hamilton, and proceed--ed to Bombay. Mr.Wilder who succeeded to the post of the Resident at Nagpur, arrived there on the 12th April 1827. In the following month the young Raja Raghuji was married to a daughter of the Shirke House.[2] The marriage ceremony was --

1. G.Ramsay, The Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.26-27.
2. Ibid, p.27

performed on the 21st May.

1827-28 A.D. Resident Wilder when he submitted his report to the Calcutta Government, on the 8th December 1828, gave a very favourable account of the young Raja's character. The Resident thought, that his characteristics justified, high expectations from his rule in the future. Reporting on the state of affairs in the Nagpur Territories, the -- Resident mentioned that the revenue collections were --- satisfactory with considerable money in the Treasury. The country was tranquil and the Police insufficient numbers for the State. However in the following year, the surplus in the Treasury was utilised, because the collections of revenue suffered a slight drop.[1]

In the same year the Governor-General Lord -- Bentinck showed a desire, that Raja Raghuji should be - burdened less by the British demands, and made more indepen-dent for his dignity. He found that the clauses of the -- 1826 Treaty were not satisfactory for the interests of the Raja. Therefore the Governor-General asked the Resident, to substitute the following in place of the 8th and 9th --- Article of the above Treaty. The changes to be made were that the Raja was to pay eight lakhs of rupees annually for the expenses of his military force and for the management of his Civil Department. That the control of his army, was -

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1. G.Ramsay, Report on the Nagpur State, p.27.

to be restored to him and the Reserved Districts were to be transferred to his care and management. All European officers in the Civil and Military Departments were to be withdrawn. For the above restoration of the Raja's ---- authority, Raghuji must guarantee to keep an adequate force for his frontiers and for his subjects' self-defence. The Subsidiary Force was however, still available for the -- State's general defence.[1]

The Resident Wilder raised an objection to such a transfer of powers to the Raja. He advised, that the -- Calcutta Government should wait till 1832, when the five years revenue settlements will expire, and in the meantime they could form an accurate estimate of the abilities of Raja Raghuji to rule a big State like that of Nagpur. The Resident was also influenced against the transfer of -- authority when he considered the distressed state in which the officers of the Nagpur Auxiliary Force would be placed; particularly those of the local officers of the City, who were more dependent on the Raja. But the result of further correspondence with the Governor-General ended only in some modification of the terms. The terms of the Treaty signed by His Highness the Raja and the Resident nevertheless included in a major portion, the changes desired by the - Governor-General. The Treaty duly ratified by the --------

1. G.Ramsay, Report on the Nagpur State, p.28.

Governor-General-in-Council on the 15th January 1830 was received by the Raja on the 5th February 1830. The terms of this new Treaty were as follows:-

The Raja was to pay eight lakhs in lieu of - the British rescinding the 8th and the 9th Articles of the 1826 Treaty. The Reserved Districts were made over to -- the Raja's entire control and all British officers in the administration were withdrawn. The transfer of authority was to take place on the 5th June 1830 from which date the Auxiliary Force was to be disbanded and the Raja was to - provide an adequate force instead.

The Raja agreed to respect various settlements made by the British officers, with Zemindars etc., with the Gonds and his Tributaries.

The 10th, 12th and the 18th Articles were also rescinded. The British reserved the right to offer the Raja advice on important matters, which he was to accept, and act in conformity to it. If the Raja because of gross mis--management endangered his resources by which he was to pay the Company, the British Government would directly resume the management of the Reserved Districts, paying the surplus to the Raja.

Raghuji was liable to keep a thousand horse in perfect efficiency and to serve the British army when called

upon to do so. He would receive a Batta for the services of the detachment, from the Company. The 15th Article was rescinded and all former terms not affected by the present agreement were confirmed.[1]

During the years that followed after the above transfer of power to Raghuji Bhonsle, the Nagpur Territo--ries were not disturbed by any unusual event. The subjects of the State lived in peace and quiet and with certain - amount of prosperity, though the fall in the revenue -- collections experienced since 1809 still persisted. The contemporary writings of the Residents, Greene, Col. Briggs, Hon. Cavendish and Major Wilkinson attest, that the country enjoyed security of person and property arising from the mild rule of the Sovereign and the peaceful character of the people. The cultivation of the country had not increased, but in some places it was quite rich in produce as in the - days of the British Superintendence. Resident Cavendish - observed in his letter of the 27th December 1788 "No country is better disposed towards the British Government than the principality of Nagpore and this truly happy state of things is attributable to Sir R. Jenkins' management and superinten--dence. He ruled and overawed the refractory with a firm hand, protected the weak and he and his assistants (all of them very able men and zealous officers) were always accessible

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1. G. Ramsay, Report on the Nagpur State, p.29.

to the complaints of the poor. No resumptions took place, no new British rules and regulations were introduced, the Courts were not rendered tedious and ruinous by intricate forms, Vakeels and Mukhteers etc, the result is that the British character is admired, its power known and the -- administration might be carried on almost without an army.[1]

In the year 1837, Raja Raghuji on the advice of the British Government formally abolished, the right of Suttee in the month of September from his dominions. The Act was carefully enforced, because except for stray cases in remote Chhattisgarh none happened in the other Nagpur Territories in the future.[2]

1837-41 A.D. The few incidents, which created a partial sensa-tion in an extremely peaceful State, were a temporary rising of the Pindarees and the rebellion of the pretender Appa Sahib. The latter event gave some trouble to the State authorities. The Pretender according to the information received by the Resident from Brigadier G.Twemlow -- commanding the Elichpur Division,was supported in his - venture by the reputed Saint Ramji Patil of Amraoti.[3] However his attempts did not in any measure endanger the security of Raja Raghuji's rule. In the November of 1841 the Pretender gathered a force in the Nizam's territories

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1. G.Ramsay, Report on the Nagpur State, p.30.
2. Ibid.
3. Nagpur Residency Records, LI,No.55.

and threatened to enter the Nagpur district, but he was closely followed and attacked. He suffered a defeat at the hands of a small body of the Nizam's troops. Lt.-Col. Danker of the Nagpur Subsidiary Force also went to intercept him. Being faced with the Nagpur force on the banks of the Wardha the Pretender's followers deserted him, which forced him to fly as well. He escaped with great difficulty.[1] By the end of November 1841 the Resident Major T.Wilkinson received intelligence from Brigadier E.Rayeford commanding Hingoli Division that the Officer Commanding the 1st Regiment of the Nizam's infantry had captured the Pretender with seven of his adherents.[2]

1841-1853 A.D. The years that followed after these slight - eruptions, were again those of peace and tranquillity. In 1844 on the 1st of February Major Wilkinson who had come in the place of Hon'ble Cavendish left Nagpur and Lt.-Col.Spiers was appointed in his place as Resident.The new Resident adopted the line of policy followed by his predecessor, towards the government of Nagpur. The — relationship of the Raja and the British was extremely cordial and friendly. For some time past the question of succession to the Musnud, had been a recurring point of worry and trouble to the British Residents, because the

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1. G.Ramsay, Report on the Nagpur State, pp.29-30.
2. Nagpur Residency Records, LI, No.62.

issues of the male line from Raghuji I were extinct. Raghuji III himself had no male issues. Appa Sahib who had died at Jondpur on the 15th July 1840[1] had also left behind no - heir to succeed to his rights. For some reasons unknown, the Raja had not yet adopted a son to succeed him.

So with the question of succession undecided the years passed when in the year 1753 the Raja's health showed signs of a decline. Before he was laid on bed with fever, he had been indisposed for over twenty days when he neglect--ed undergoing an orderly method of cure. His fever which had lasted for five days, fortunately left him after that period.[2] The Raja encouraged by his early recovery, unwisely indulged in a resumption of his old life of eating and -- drinking and visiting his harem. The natural result of -- such carelessness, was a relapse into his sick state again. But this time he was attacked, with more severity by the - fever, which combined with cold, dyspnoea and piles from which he had latterly suffered made his condition critical. Still the Raja would not allow of any medical treatment, or surgical operation of palliative nature, though the whole native professional skill with Abercrombie a retired --- apothecary were on attendance. On the contrary, he put no restraint upon his diet, eating pullow on the morning -- before his death, and taking spirits till three days ---

1. G.Ramsay, Report on the Nagpur State, p.30.
2. Ibid. p.32.

before it. The Raja's death was caused in the opinion of the British surgeon Maule by the inflammation and ulcera-tion of the intestines which caused the stoppage of evacua-tions.[1]

Raja Raghuji's death without an heir; that of his own, or adopted left the Nagpur Masnad vacant. Neither did his principal widow adopt an heir to succeed him according to the old Maratha custom - There were only two male descendants of Raghuji II by the female line still alive. The eldest was Chilkoji Gujar who was the nephew of Raghuji III being the son of his sister Chilka Bai. The next was the son of Chilkoji's sister Meena Bai, and consequently the grand nephew of Raghuji III. By Hindu Law these two could not be adopted as the former was already adopted in the Gujar family and the latter because he was the only son.[2] - There was another male descendant,but from the line of - Mudhoji Bhonsle (Raghuji's father) by the only daughter - Tuckoo Bai. This male descendant was born to her son Gujaba Dada.[3]

When the Resident Mansel sent his report, on the question of succession to the Nagpur Gadi, in his letter of the 14th December 1853 addressed to the Supreme Government at Calcutta, he received orders from the Governor General

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1. G.Ramsay, Report on the Nagpur State, p.82.
2. Ibid, p.83.
   Genealogical Table of the Bhonsles.(App.C.I)
3. Ibid.

Dalhousie a few months afterwards to attach the territo-
-ries to the British dominions in India. Lord Dalhousie reasoned in his masterful way as follows, before he -- annexed the Nagpur dominions under the British Suzerainty. The Kingdom of Nagpore became British territory by simple lapse, in the absence of all legal heirs. The Kingdom which had been granted to the reigning Raja by the British Government when it had become forfeited by the treachery of Appa Sahib was left without a claimant when the Raja died. No son had been born to His Highness; none had been adopted by him; none, as they have themselves admitted, was adopted at the Raja's death by the Ranees his widows. There remained no one male of the line who descended from the stock and bore the name of Bhonsla. The British Govern-
-ment therefore refused to bestow the territory in free - gift upon a stranger and wisely incorporated it with its own dominions.[1]

It was true that "there remained no one -- male of the line" who bore the Bhonsle name. But the -- adherents of the family argued that there were three des-
-cendants from the female lines who could have been placed on the musnud if the British had desired and adopted one of them as it was done in the case of the last Raghuji. The Governor General's argument against such a plea was that the Government of India in 1818 did not recognise - that the Nagpur succession had passed by adoption and did

1. J.Baird, Private Letters of Lord Dalhousie.(Ann.E.)

place the late Raghuji on the Musnud because he had been adopted into the Bhonsle family. The disposal of the State of Nagpore at that time was determined, by - views of general policy into which adoption did not -- enter. Though he was adopted as Bhonslah he was so -- adopted long subsequently to his elevation to Musnud -- which passed by free gift of the government and not as the consequence of his adoption." The Governor General further stated that as soon as the Calcutta Government heard of the action of Sitabaldi they had declared that Appa Sahib had forfeited the State of Nagpur and so they were resolved to dispose of it as was best for the policy of the British Government.

The true fact of the case appears to be that when the British Governmentplaced the last Raghuji on the Musnud of Nagpur they wanted to restore tranquillity in the State which could only have been preserved by such a step. Now that the country had been brought under the complete British control and the inhabitants given peace and prosperity, and so/ been won over to the British management the Calcutta authorities had no desire to relinquish such well paying territories into native hands. In the words of Lord Dalhousie the country "would give us £ 400000 a year. I think this is too good a 'plum' not to pick out of this 'Christmas pie'. Nearly 2½ millions of 5 per cent have - been converted, by the last accounts."[1]

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1. J.Baird, Private Letters of Lord Dalhousie, p.289.

Except for the plea that they had a right to the Nagpur territories by right of conquest the British ---- Government cannot put forward just reasons for the ----- annexation of the Bhonsle dominions.

CHAPTER I.

INTERNAL HISTORY.

GOVERNMENT & COURT OF NAGPUR.

The Government of Nagpur under the Marathas, began with the rule of Rughuji the Great. Even under him it was a loose and disjointed affair, mostly of the feudal type. Rughuji was essentially a military ruler, and so was able to exact his dues, and respect to his authority, with the help of his efficient army. With the succession to the Musnud of his son Janoji, the Government of the Nagpur Territories, was brought under better and more -- homogeneous management. Raja Janoji with the help of able ministers, and a staff of subordinate officials, made - efforts to centralise the powers of the ruler into his - hands. He tried to settle, as many of the districts as he could bring under his control. Into distant territories, he sent out Subahdars, who had authorities of the feudal lords. The mismanagement and corruption in these distant provinces, was at times beyond the control of the Raja. Otherwise wherever he was able to enforce his authority, he strictly meted out punishment, for the better management of the province in the future, and for the regular payment of the revenues from the same.

Though Janoji was never able to gather, a revenue as large as his father, the money that came regularly into his coffers, was from a systematic management of the country.

It is extremely likely, that the revenue of a crore of rupees gathered by Rughuji I was attained by addition of plundering raids and exactions with his predatory army.

The system of Government followed by Janoji was based on the old forms existing during the Gond, Rajput and Muhomedan rule of these districts. Janoji's succes--sors continued the same methods, perfecting some of them.

When the first Rughuji established his Court at Nagpur his immediate subordinate officials were as --- follows: The Muzumdar or Dewan who was the head of all his government departments, and was also the Raja's -- constant adviser and follower. The next important officer was the Furnavis. This servant was originally appointed - by the Raja of Satara to keep an account of the Chouth collection of Berar. But later he performed also the -- office duties of the Accountant General for the receipts and disbursements of Rughuji's revenues and expenses. All Sunnuds, orders and grants on the revenue, proceeded from his office. To assist him subordinate Furnavises were - appointed and sent out as deputies to the various ---- districts.[1] The officer who performed the same duties for the Gond Raja according to the Partition Treaty with -- Rughuji was called the Pritee. During the reign of Rughuji

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.147-48.

Rughuji I the Pritee, kept a similar type of accounts, as that kept by the Furnavis, and also countersigned and sealed all revenue papers and grants. The corresponding assistants to the Pritee for the management in the country, were called Hoordars. They performed the similar duties in their smaller divisions. During the reign of Janoji, the Raja transferred the office of the Pritee to his own -- Cutcherry, which some years afterwards became only a --- office in name. The functions of the Hoordars however - continued till the middle of the nineteenth Century in all those districts where the Gond Raja enjoyed a share of the revenue.[1]

The officer next to the Furnavis was the -- Wurar Pandia. The Wurar Pandia also had assistants all over the country. His duty was to manage the Lugwan --- accounts, which consisted of the record of the actual state of cultivation, the area of the occupied land and the --- respective rents for the same. The office of the Wurar Pandia, was only a continuation of the old form existing during the Gond rule.

Raja Rughuji's other officers were the ---- Chitnavis,the Jamdar, the Siccanavis and the Munshi. The Chitnavis was his general secretary who answered all orders, grants and letters of the Government. The Jamdar was the Raja's treasurer and the supervisor of his wardrobe and

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.148.

jewel office. The Siccanavis was the Mint officer and the Munshi was the secretary for the Persian Correspondence.[1]

The principal bankers of the city, had some -- voice in the Government of the country according to their wealth and standing. The leading banker was called the -- Nuggur Naik, having a general authority over the mercantile and banking community. He was the instrument by which the Raja secured loans, and arranged other financial operations.[2] It was the custom of the Nagpur State, to give a hereditary right to all its principal officers. Even if the officer loses the consideration and perquisites which means that he is replaced by another servant in the same office, he is not deprived of the designation nor of the share of the regulat--ed allowances, pertaining to that office. Besides the --- performance of their official duties, most of these servants had a share in the deliberations, on the general questions of external and internal policy in the Raja's Councils, according to, as the Raja manifested a desire for their - opinions, or support of their experiences.[3]

It often happened, that the duties of the Dewan, were performed by an officer in charge of quite a different function of the government. Devaji Punt Cherghore, who was only Janoji's Munshi performed the offices of the Dewan as....

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories. pp.148-49.
2. Ibid. p.149.
3. Ibid. pp.149-50.

well as his usual duties.[1] In like manner Bhuwani Pundit and his son Sreedhur Pundit, carried on the duties of the Dewan and the secretary for foreign affairs.[2] Another -- example was that of Bhuwani Kalu the Bakshi, who was both the secretary for military affairs and the Dewan.[3] Later Bhuwani Kalu who retained the title of the Dewan and its emoluments, was hardly ever consulted on important matters which became the topic of discussions, between the Raja - and his new favourites. The Bhonsles were usually arbitrary rulers. Though they consulted, and at times followed the advice of the ministers, they usually adopted measures, or followed a political policy, according to the dictates of their own nature.

During the reigns of Raghuji and Janoji and also during the Regency of Mudhoji, most of the Rajas -- officials split up between those who favoured the policy of a dependence on the Peshwa, and those who encouraged the right of the Bhonsles to be independent rulers. --- According as the exigency demanded the Raja followed their opinions and varied his favours in like manner. With the introduction of British influence after the Treaty of -- Deogaon the ministers in the government of Raghuji II --

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, pp.52 & 65
2. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.150.
   Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.111.
3. Ibid, p.93.

formed into two parties. Sreedhur Pundit with Juswunt Rao Ramchunder and Jykison Pundit favoured the British connection, whilst Naroba Chitnavis and others sponsored an allegiance under the Peshwa, which was supposed to foster the old principles of the Maratha Confederacy.[1] But the political questions were not the only means, by which the officers secured the Raja's favour. It depended on the characteristics of the individual on the Musnud of Nagpur. In the case of Raghuji II, many an inconsequent person, obtained his favour and rose to superior station in life, because he pandered to the Raja's love of wealth and showed ways and means of gathering it.[2] Similarly -- during the short reign of Appa Sahib, men who could -- never have risen to any distinction, under a wise and -- regular order of rule, rose to prominence, because of the momentary caprice of the Raja.[3]

Besides the above superior officers of the State, the government employed inferior servants, whose duties were of lesser importance. The Khasgee Walla managed the Raja's private revenue and trade, and controlled his household - expenses. There was a Chief of the Shagird Pesha, who -- supervised the internal economy of the palace. Besides --

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.150.
2. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, pp.94-95 & 111.
3. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.150.

these, the departments of the wardrobe, the jewel office, the Kothee or magazine of grain etc, of the elephants and camels, of buildings aqueducts etc. each had an officer in charge. There was also a Naik or -- Chief for the Harkaras or spies, who was besides being in charge of the intelligence department, had establish_ -ments in every Purgannah, by which he checked the -- mismanagement and corruption of the Kumaishdars.[1]

As regards the emoluments whihh the ministers and other officers received, were not nominally high. They were paid partly in cash, partly in villages -- granted rent free, and partly in dues on appointments in their departments, with percentages on the revenues of the country. Each had the sanction, to keep a fixed number of horse, at certain rates of pay and an elephant or two were granted them, according to their position in the government. They also received the payments for their subordinates. Those of the officers who conducted ---- foreign business, often held handsome Jagirs and pensions from the other Indian Governments. These officers had - another privilege, that of making money by traffic.[3] Rughuji II himself, had later set the example, by ----- introducing monopolies in which he traded, at the expense of the Government revenue and at the sacrifice of the -- interests of the industrious classes of his subjects.[2]

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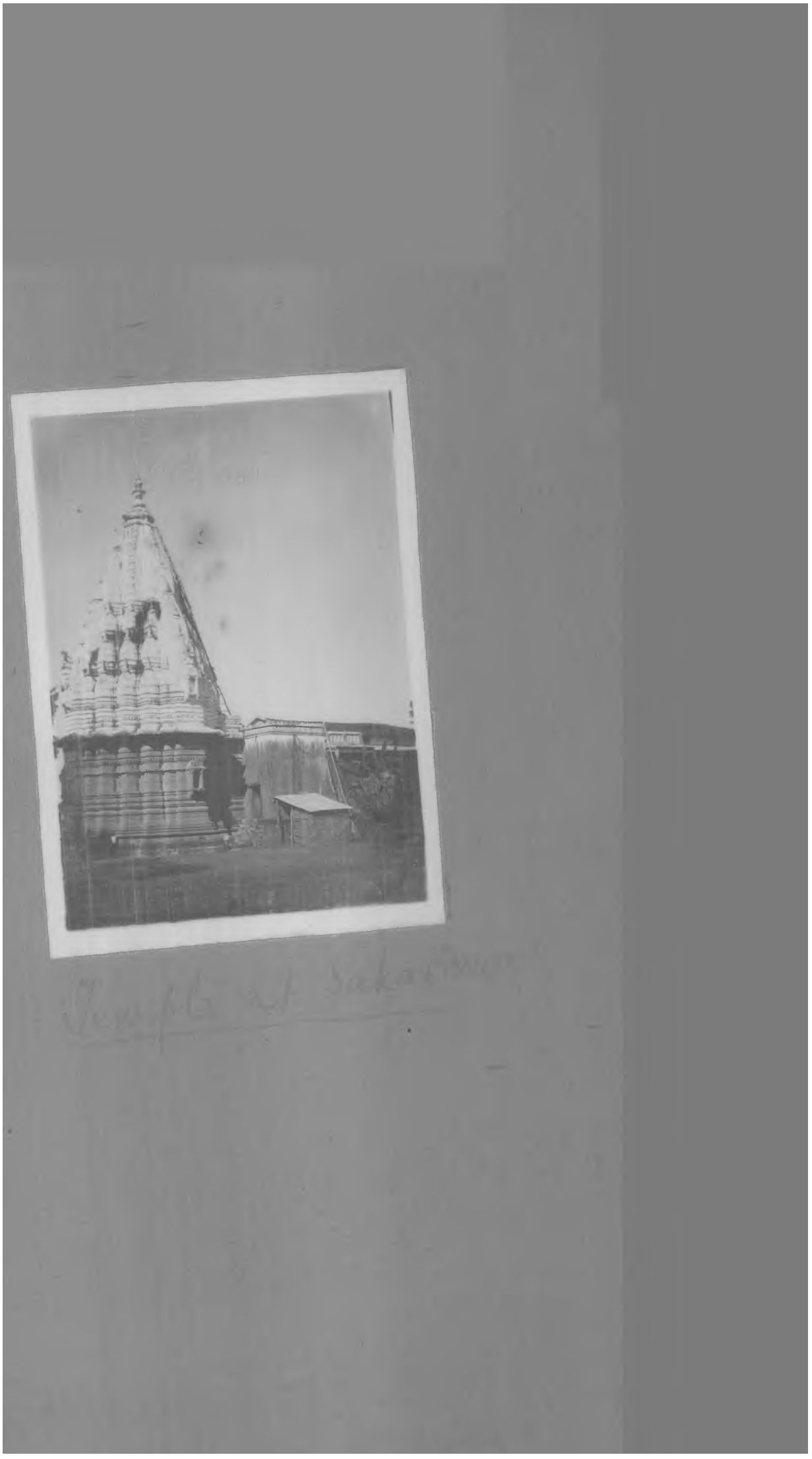
1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories. pp.150-51.
2. Ibid, p.154.
3. Ibid.



The ministers could similarly monopolise certain articles and trade in them under the remission of duties and with privileges totally subversive of the tenets of free trade.[1]

COURT OF NAGPUR.

During the rule of the early Bhonsle Kings, most of the business of the Nagpur Government, was despatched at the Raja's Durbar. The various ministers of the different departments or their deputies, came to the Raja's Court - daily to discuss important matters, and get his sanction for the exercise of their duty. The Raja did not hold his - Court on the days of fasts, or of festivals. Nevertheless in the smallest to the greatest affairs, if the minister thought it necessary to consult the Raja, he could be -- accessible, even when not sitting in Durbar. During the -- greatest festivities, if the business of the government demanded the Rajs's attention, it was always acceded to.[2]

During these early stages of the Bhonsle rule, the Raja's Durbar was not an elaborate or a luxurious -- meeting. Raja Janoji for instance, held his Durbar every - morning and evening, on an open verandah of his palace, looking on the street. His intention was to be visible to his people, and show that he was accessible to their

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories. p.154.

2. Ibid, p.152.

personal calls, for justice and redress from injuries received. The Raja always sat on his Musnud, raised of cushions and pillows, with his sword and shield kept -- before him. These instruments of a warlike prince, were later in disuse by his less military minded successors. Janoji broke up his Durbar by noon, when he went for his - meals and siesta. At three O'Clock in the afternoon after the Raja had inspected his arms, horses, elephants etc. he sat again in Durbar. Until sunset the business of the Durbar was carried on under his supervision, after which he retired. Often the ministers remained till a later -- hour, to complete the day's work.[1]

In respect of the etiquette and ceremonies of the Court of Nagpur, it was never intricate or pompous. The Raja who was usually dressed, like any of his courtiers, received almost any stranger of any rank as his equal. He rose and took the person's salute, and embraced him ---- afterwards. In some cases he even came out of the palace, with most of his principal officers of the Court, to welcome the new comer. Only on the days of great occasions, did the Raja dress in splendour and wore his family jewels. On the day of the Dussera festival, his pomp surpassed all the -- previous occasions.[2]

The Nagpur Durbar by the time of Rughuji II, had

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.153.

2. Ibid. pp.153-54.

attained some amount of luxury and splendour. The Raja sat on a throne in a magnificent apartment, surrounded by a selected few of his officers and ministers. The rest of his functionaries and nobility sat at a respectable distance, along the walls of the apartment. Unlike the business carried on by Janoji in his Durbar, the government work done by -- Rughuji, in his Court was very little. The Raja carried on a casual conversation with his select servants, on topics - of urgent moment, or otherwise listened to the singing of the dancing girls. Like his predecessors, Raja Rughuji was in hismanners and dress more like a private gentleman, than a sovereign. His courtiers behaved with him more like his friends, than his servants.[1]

THE ARMY OF THE BHONSLES.

The military establishment of the Bhonsles, was in the hands of the Surdufter, the Bukshee, the Pugnuvis, the Khasgee Walla and an Officer in charge of the Raja's - artillery. The Surdufter kept the army Estimates. The Bukshee who was the principal officer of the military department, supervised over the paymasters of the troops, and received - the general returns of the forces under employment. He had the facility of employing deputies under him, for the depart- -ment of the horse and the infantry. The Pugnavis was the -

1. T.E.Colebrooke, The Life of Colebrooke, pp.145-46.

the officer, who conducted the business of the Raja's Paga. The Khasgee Wall supervised besides his other functions, the expenses of the Paga as well as of the artillery.[1]

The principal army officers of the Bhonsles were the Bukshee; the Subahdars of provinces like that of Chhutt--eesgarh and Orissa, who had held high civil and military - powers; the Maratha Chiefs or Maunkurees of old families - holding high commands; and the Yukas or Yukandees who were single horsemen with high pay, born of good Hindu or Muhome--dan families and were attached to the person of the Raja or the member of the ruling family. Following these in rank came the Commandant of divisions of horse and infantry; the Risal--dars of horse; the Chiefs of the Paga or household troops and other petty Commanders of infantry and artillery.[2]

The army of the Bhonsles in the reign of the first Rughuji, was highly efficient and of a very powerful strength. It usually numbered over 50000 troops. It mostly consisted of cavalry, which was well-known in the Deccan, for its crack performances on the battle-field.[3] The method of warfare that this army followed, was according to the old Maratha manner - of the time of Shivaji. Though the standard of the Nagpur -- troops, did not decline during the early stages of Raja Janoji's rule, its prestige suffered a great setback, because of the - defeats, the Raja suffered at the hands of the Peshwa's army

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.151
2. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.42.
3. Ibid, p.28.

and against that of the Nizam for the unhappy political policy he followed, in regard to the Poona and the Hyderabad - Government.[1]

With some decline in its strength, the Bhonsle army suffered another drain on its powers, when the two -- Bhonsle brothers, Mudhoji and Sabaji fought against one -- another, after the death of Janoji. The eventual success of Mudhoji as the Regent at Nagpur, saw the state of the ---- Bhonsle army in really bad circumstances. Its number had - reduced, its pay had run in arrears, and its old efficiency had departed. Its decline can be judged when we read, that Mudhoji failed to drive away Ibrahim Beg Dhonsa who had come with a small army to punish the Bhonsle for Sabaji's death.[2] Even after a few years of rule, Mudhoji had not improved his army, because he learn that his forces achieved no success against small rulers like the Nawab of Bhopal and the Chief of Gurah Mundla.[3] From the account of Forster we find that Mudhoji's army consisted of 10800 regular troops, of which only 300 were sepoys awkwardly clothed, and ill-disciplined. He had an irregular body of infantry which was chiefly employ--ed in the various forts. Mudhoji's artillery was alike ill--conditioned and ill-served.[4]

It was during the early years of Rughuji II's rule,

1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century. p.28.
2. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, II, pp.67-68.
3. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.99.
4. Ibid. p.98.

that the Nagpur army again reached a certain of its old strength and prestige. Even as early as 1790 -- Rughuji had raised the 300 sepoys of Mudhoji's time to two battalions (about 1300 men) armed and equipped in the European fashion.[1] A few years afterwards his army became still better, because the Raja was able to --- conquer Gurah Mundla and capture Hoshangabad, Chauragarh and Sumbulpur.[2] By the time the Marathas were concerting ways and means, to thwart the growth of the British -- ascendancy in India, Raja Rughuji by his conquests and his military strength had won the recognition of being one of the few leading Maratha rulers of its time. In the year 1803, Rughuji's army was estimated at 25000 infantry (of which over 12000 were in regular battalions), 4000 Arabs and Pathans and about 18000 horse.[3] His field-arti--llery consisted of about 90 pieces of ordnance. Cole--brooke when he sent his estimates to the Governor -- General, did not speak very highly of the discipline and efficiency of the Nagpur army, except in the case of the cavalry which he considered the best part of the Bhonsle's military establishment.[4] The British envoy's estimate was not quite just. He compared the Nagpur troops, with the highly efficient English soldiers, and naturally found them wanting in martial calibre. But if he were to --- compare them, with the troops of Mudhoji Bhonsle's time,

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1. Early European Travellers in Nagpur, p.73.
2. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, pp.138-39.
3. Nagpur Residency Records, I, L.Nos.24 & 28.(App.A.6 & A.7).
4. Ibid.

or with those in the territories of other Indian rulers, except in that of Daulat Rao Sindia, he would sound a note of appreciation for the achievement of Raja Rughuji. At the same time,we cannot but agree with Colebrooke, when he wrote that the fficiency of the Raja's army was marred, by the -- irregularity of payment he made towards his troops, and -- because of the Raja's own unwarlike and mean disposition.[1]

Because of this very incomplete martial state of his troops, Rughuji Bhonsle was not able to help Sindia as he should have done, in their famous War in 1803 against the British. In fact the results of the battles of Assye and - Argaon and the loss sustained at Gawilgarh broke largely the military strength of the Nagpur Bhonsle. The great loss of revenue, resulting from the cession of valuable territo--ries to the British and the Nizam, prevented Rughuji --- Bhonsle, from attempting again to raise the standard and - strength of his army. Considering his financial circumstances, the Raja was forced to disband a number of his battalions of regular infantry, and 7000 **of his** irregular horse, immediate--ly after the Peace of Deogaon was signed.[2]

Even under these strained circumstances, Raja - Rughuji had by the end of the year 1804, a sufficiently big army. His irregular cavalry of Silahdars, who owned their own horses numbered about 10000 to 12000 men. His own Paga number--ed 1800 horse with 900 men of his brother Vyankoji.[3] The --

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1. Nagpur Residency Records, I,L.No.28 (App.A.7).
2. The Nagpur State in the 18th Century by Wills,p.187.
3. Ibid. p.188.

regular infantry numbered over 4000 troops most of whom were natives of Benares, Oudh, and the adjoining provinces.[1] The above estimate was not quite a correct one, as a great measure of corruption, was in existence between the men supporting fixed numbers of troops and the muster-masters. These recording officers were bribed, to put more men on the muster roll, than were in force under these military officers.[2]

At the same time the Raja's army could have been increased instantly, if he were only to demand such an addition. Because these same officials, who cheated him out of the true numbers of soldiers could furnish more fighting men, than their allotted share, because there was always a certain number of men, who had never been on military service, ready to join the army, to get experience and gather a share of the plunder and the spoil.[3]

The method of recruitment, during the reign of Rughuji II, was more elaborate and binding, than ever before. The Sardar or head of a troop of infantry or horse, entered into an agreement for all his men, by which he bound himself and his men, to serve the King under the enforced conditions. The conditions demanded, that the soldiers must agree to serve for twelve months, in lieu of eleven or ten months' pay, which he was to receive in the usual manner of payment in existence in the State. That during time of war, whether in the Nagpur

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1. Nagpur Residency Records, XXV,L.No.62, (App.A.21).
2. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.189.
3. Ibid.

territories or outside it, whatever property or buried treasure they seized or discovered, was to be surrendered to the Sarkar. That any capture made, of enemy's cannon or elephant carrying the enemy's flag, must be given up to the Sarkar. Lastly that in time of war, mutiny, or at the --- moment of going into battle if the soldiers demanded their pay, or asked for their dismissal from the army, they would be liable to punishment, which the government may think fit to inflict.[1] Having entered into this agreement the Risaldar or head of the troops, gets a voucher from the Surdafter, after the other preliminaries of muster-enrolment and the signature of the Raja is obtained to the agreement, for the enlistment. This voucher enables the Sardar to draw the pay of his Risala. However when the pay is claimed,he finds, that there have been further deductions, than those specifi-_ed in the agreement. The deductions at times rose to even six annas in the rupee.[2]

The payment of the balance was not made, in one full amount. Two-thirds of this value was paid, in irregular instalments, in the course of every month, and the remaining third was paid twice a year, when the military accounts were drawn up. But much of this third portion was paid, in clothes from the Raja's shops, so that the Raja could make some --- profit out of that portion as well.[3] Even these low and ---

1.Wills, The Nagpur State int the 18th Century.p.190.
2.Ibid.
3.Ibid. p.191.

irregular payments, were allowed to fall in arrears, which eventually made the soldiers to borrow loans. Since the - city Sahukars would not lend without proper security, the loans were taken from the Raja who advanced in lieu of their pay on an enormous interest of 6% per month. The burden of this great interest, soon placed the poor soldiers in the grasp of the Raja, who when the time came for the settlement of their debts, took a decided advantage and cleared up great portions of the arrears of pay due to the troops.[1] Naturally when such a system of management in the military department prevailed, the state of efficiency amongst the soldiers was hard to attain. It was fortunate, that living then was -- cheap, which enabled a Silahdar horse to feed himself and his animal on 20/-Rs. per month because out of his pay of -- 25/-Rs, he had to surrender 5/- Rs. towards the Chief of his party. A Bargir horse was better off, because his animal was fed by the government and he was given seven to eight rupees as his monthly pay. A soldier in the regular infantry was paid less, getting six rupees per month.[2]

REVENUE SYSTEM OF THE BHONSLES.

The general heads of the revenue under the Maratha government of the Bhonsles were: Land Revenue, --------- Kullalee, Bewaee and Pandree, Sair, City Customs including Mint

1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century. p.191.
2. Ibid. pp.192-93.

etc. and the Oobaree of Zemindars.

Except for the oity customs and Oobaree, the -- Kumaishdars of Purganahs collected the revenue. They were revenue collectors, magistrates and police officials in one.[1]

LAND REVENUE.

West of the Lanjhi hills the districts had been conquered from the Muslims and so the old Mughal system prevailed at least nominally.

In the lands conquered from the Gonds the ancient Gond system was kept up by the conquerors.[2] The whole country of Deogarh and Chanda was divided in Purganahs which varied in size according to the number of the villages each contain--ed. During the Gond rule the Deshmukh and Deshpandia managed the affairs of the Purganah, under the common Zemindar system, but the Marathas retained only a few officers keeping the - general manager whose denomination they changed from Hoordar to Kumaishdar. He was helped by the Keeper of the Government accounts of the Purganah called Mohurior in the past but was now called the Furnavis. The other officer of the Purganah was the Wurar Pandia or the recorder of the village accounts.[3]

In the village the superior officer was the Putel

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.156.
2. Ibid, pp.156-57.
3. Ibid, p.157.

with one or two assistants called the Pandia or the --- accountant, the Kotwar with the usual establishment of --- Barra Bulooti or Aykerri found throughout most part of the - Deccan.[1]

The Putel. The Putel was the agent of the Govern--ment apportioning and collecting rent, for which he was -- absolutely responsible. He possessed subordinate and ----- undefined magisterial power and judicial authority. His --- remuneration was paid either in money, or in rent free land, besides trifling dues and privileges. After further deductions his income came down to one sixth of the Government share of - the revenue. His office was not hereditary or saleable. When ejected from it or when he resigned, no Malikanah was allowed. Usually the son or a relative succeeded through sufferance or through a new appointment. The successor took the responsibi--lities under fresh conditions and was not hampered by claims against his father or relative.[2]

The other inferior servants of the village after the Pandia and the Kotwar were the Joshi, Bhoomuk, Parpugari, Warai or carpenter, Khati or blacksmith, Chumar, Mahli or barber and Wurhti or washerman. The first six were termed Sirkar Summundy of Government servants although chiefly paid by the Kirsans or ryots. The next five were termed Saon Summundy and were wholly the servants of the villagers.[3]

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories. p.157.
2. Ibid. pp.157-8.
3. Ibid. p.167.

The Pandia was the village accountant, kept the Lagwuns and was appointed generally by the Putel. His - office was not hereditary and he was paid 15 to 90 Rs. per year from the Government and in some cases had a - field, rent-free.[1]

The Joshi was the astrologer and the priest to officiate at births, deaths, marriages or religious -- ceremonies of all kinds. He was usually a Brahmin. He got his remuneration from a small field of little value in Inam, one or two Rs. from the Gaon Khurch allowance, a -- Kuru or 8 pailees of grain from each Kirsan annually, and alms from the Kirsans at festivals etc.[2]

The Kotwar was the village watchman and a man of importance. He was always a Dher possessed of quickness and intelligence. He knew the names and the rents of each field and the names of its occupants. He was a servant of the Government and of the Kirsans. He could be dismissed by the Putel who employed him as a messenger and errand man to the Thana. The Kirsans used him to call them to - feasts, marriages etc. He waited on travellers, furnishing them with coolies firewood and supplies. He reported all arrivals and departures. All extra requisites for forage by the Government was collected by him. In case of theft the Kotwar endeavoured to trace the thieves from one village to another showing great sagacity.[3]

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.167.
2. Ibid. pp.167-68.
3. Ibid.p.168.

In large villages and towns he was assisted by another under him known as the Turrar also a Dher. The - Kotwar was given a field of little value in Inam, a Kuru of grain from each plough or the privilege of collecting the sweepings of the Kullees or threshing floors, and -- Adhur i.e. the hides and carcasses of dead animals. In some places he got a few pice at marriages or festivals etc. and and Chungee or the right of taking a handful of grain etc. from each basket carried into the bazar. TheTurrar got a - petty grain allowance from each Kirsan.[1]

The Bhoomuk a Gond performed the customary worship of the boundary deities, attended on Government servants, fetched water for them etc. He acted as a poon and armed with a sword and spear accompanied marriage processions. He was also considered a magician to drive out the evil - spirit. He got a rupee or two from the Government, a few pice and 2 or 3 pailees of grain from each Kirsan.[2]

The Gerpuncree was also a magician to drive away hail-storms and calamities from the village. He got 8 annas or a rupee and a couple of pailees of grain from each -- Kirsan.

In large villages there was generally an officer called the Mawildar who acted under the Patel in matters of police. He was paid by the Government.[3]

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.169.
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid.p.170.

In Kusbahs or chief towns of Purganahs a Pandhree Pandia keeps the accounts of the Pandhree and Kullalee.[1]

The remunerations of the officers of the Purganah were as follows. The Kumaishdar got from Rs.250 to 500 Rs. per year but also received Nuzzurs and various other -- contributions from his Purganah. In particular the collec--tions and disbursements of the Burguns were a great source of profit to the Kumaishdar.[2]

The Furnavis was paid from 100 to 250 Rs.per annum with a Durdehee of Re.1 from each village in his Purganah and 1 Re. on all orders and papers issued from his office.

The Wurar Pandia got from 100 to 150 Rs.per year and had 2 Rs. on each village.[3]

ASSESSMENT IN VILLAGES.

The Putels granted yearly leases to cultivators and not for a longer period, so that perpetual tilling of the same land was not possible. No distinctions were made as to the terms allowed. Everyone was liable to be taxed to the full proportion of the whole "Jumma" which with the proportionate share of a separate field or parcel is open to yearly variation.[4]

1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.170.
2. Ibid, p.166.
3. Ibid.
4. Ibid, pp.157-8.

The cultivated lands of each village were divided into fields each named and recorded in the village --- register's accounts. The assessment was apportioned upon these fields. There were no fixed assessments or rates, either general or for distinct villages. The total "Jumma" of the - villages varied and revenue papers made no mention of the rates; even the people had no idea how much they had to pay.[1]

The apportioning of the waste lands also gave no clue to the principles under which the rates were managed. These lands were assessed by Nuzzerandaz or estimate.

Generally the annual settlements were concluded at the commencement of the agricultural year between the ryot and the Putel. This agreement known as the "Istimalut" was not definite because the total village assessment was not known, so the rent to be paid was not fixed.[2]

In a village the lands were classed as the "Chal" or the "Thok". The former were of better fertility than the - latter. Taking the former the renter bound himself to pay a stated proportion of the whole village assessment. Renting the latter the Putel could not demand the proportion of the whole assessment so he let it out at a fixed rent. Now the Chal or Thok land at one year may be vice versa next year according to the agreement between the Putel and the tenants.

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.158-9.

2. Ibid, p.159.

The Thok land gave a fixed rent, so the remainder of the rent from the full village assessment was given by the Chal lands. These were finally assessed not by measure but in money i.e. rupees, annas or cowries. This proportional value was called the "Ain" of the field. If the "Ain" of - two pieces may be 3 and 4 annas or cowries respectively then they contributed in that ratio. The rates may be altered by raising or lowering this "Ain".[1]

Amongst other papers in every village there is one called the "Lagwun". In this is recorded all the above details of engagements concluded between the ryots and the Putel."When the amount of the Government demand is known the rate of -- assessment on each unit of the "Ain" and which is denominated Dharra is also inserted."[2]

The Lagwun of the preceding year is used as the basis of the new year's assessment or Jumma. That if no changes -- were necessary the assessment would be the same as before.But no two years' settlements were made in conformity with each - other, as several contending interests were at stake. The - settlement was seldom concluded without much discussion --- between the parties.[3]

The "Istimalut" was a preparatory Kulwar or Ryotwar settlement in which a new apportionment of the assessment was made in order to meet the changes that may have arisen in the

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.159-60.
2. Ibid, pp.160-61.
3. Ibid, p.161.

state of the lands and in their cultivators. The object was to arrive at a correct valuation and the attainment left to the village community, in whose hands perhaps there was any chance of its being affected.[1]

Assessment of the Purganahs.

After the engagements of the Istimalut the Putels met before the Kumaishdar and who after deliberations with them and the other revenue officers decided on the definite assessment of the Purganah according to the determination of the Government. The Kumaishdar bore in mind the Tufieek or distribution of the last year and introduced also --- certain changes which he thought fit to make according to the relative capacity of the villages, and according to the reports of the inspectors sent out to examine the Lagguns of the villages.[2]

When the Government wanted to raise the assessment of the Purganah they introduced Puttees or Burguns known as the extra percentages on a certain portion of the whole assessment called the "Ain Jummabundi".[3] Jenkins says that on what this extra assessment originally was it could not be ascertained. The Gonds probably calculated on the whole Jumma, whilst the Marathas applied it on the whole land - revenue.

All the yearly deductions of fallow lands and the

1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.163.
2. Ibid, pp.163-4.
3. Ibid, p.164.

reductions on particular lands were made partly from the "Ain Jummabundi" and so it had diminished whilst the Jumma had gone on increasing for every additional Putti introduced.

These Puttees were introduced on the whole - country or on particular Purganahs only. Occasionally they were put on for a year or two, and taken off but most commonly they became part of the permanent assess--ment.[1] During the reign of the first Raghuji from --- 1745-1755 the Putti amounted to 80% of the Ain Jumma--bundi. In Janoji's reign from 1755-1772 it went up to 96% and during the time of Sabaji from 1772 to 1775 it fell to 32%. During the Regency of Mudhoji for 13 years it was about 35% whilst in the time of Raghuji II it -- outdid in its rise those of all his predecessors by --- reaching 130% from 1792-1816.[2]

The Revenue Collection.

The business of the revenue collection of all districts which were previously under the Gonds and was carried on in the Gond Raja's office till 1756 was -- transferred later by Janoji to his own Kucheri making the Gond accountant his servant.[3]

In the following years the system of assembling

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.165.
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid, p.170.

the Putels twice a year to Nagpur to settle their accounts was kept up, but in the reign of Mudhoji it gradually fell into disuse and was entirely discontinued by Raghuji II. The Kusbah or the chief town of each Purganah then on became the scene of all direct operations of assessment. The revenue year commenced in June when the Istimalut was made. In -- August an Ijmailee or estimate of the receipts and disburse--ments of each Purganah for the current year was sent from Nagpur. This estimate was based on the last account and was a guide to the Kumaishdar for the new year. According to the Ijmailee and the amount realised last year, the assessment was increased or decreased. When a land went out of cultivation, which was called Pur, a Burgun or extra import was laid on the Purganah and when remissions or Bad were to be made on lands, the village had to pay in which the remission was made. But it was seldom that these claims were at all attended to. An increase in the estimate was assessed proportionally on the Ain.[1]

The Putels who were assembled before the Kumaishdar were sent to collect according to the amount they would have to pay. Having gathered the 12 annas instalment they were -- called in December to be informed when the remaining 4 annas in the rupee were to be collected. This time the Putti or Burguns were introduced whether they came from the Government or from the Kumaishdar to cover his miscellaneous expenses.[2]

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.170-71.

2. Ibid, p.171.

The first instalment of 12 annas in the rupee which the Putel collected was called the Phonkuree or Sesanin-ka--Towjeeh. Of these 12 annas the first 4 annas were paid in September; the second 4 annas were paid in October and the third in November. The second instalment called the ----- Char Pyse-ka_Towjeeh demanded the payments of the remaining 4 annas in the rupee in February and March.[1]

All payments made by the Putel were delivered over at the Kusbah in cash or drafts on Sahukars. An involved Putel or good character was helped by the Kumaishdar, who stood as surety to the Sahukar for a loan; otherwise the -- Putel made over the whole collection of his village. Usually the ryots paid their 12 annas in the rupee to the Putel in cash or borrowed from him to pay the same dues or gave bonds on his security to the Sahukar, who paid the sum whilst the Putel put a restraint on their property till the debts were cleared. These transactions often ruined the ryots.[2]

The loan known as Laonee was made against the grains of the crop on the ground, at a rate considerably lower to the bazar price. The another type and a more simpler form of loan was made in agreement of the sale of the crop with 2% interest per month. This type of loan was common with the Sahukars. When a Putel advanced a loan he received Sewaee or 25% interest for whatever period the loan might run.[3]

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.166.
2. Ibid, pp.171-72.
3. Ibid, p.172.

When the agriculturist failed to pay the first loan he often borrowed again pledging his cattle, implements, and produce. Invariably he became insolvent afterwards which made the Putel seize everything the debtor owned. The agri-culturist by a deed of sale voluntarily transferred his right to his property.[1]

The accounts of all the ryots were generally settled on the 1st of Chyte (in April) on which day the Istimalut - commenced. Some of the ryots in bad circumstances or being - unfortunate sufferers of chance had to be helped for the coming year. This obliged the Putel to give them a loan which was - called Tuccavi.[2] The Tuccavi loan consisted of cash for the - purchase of cattle or agricultural implements, or these were furnished in exchange by the Putel himself at a stated value for which 2% per mensem as interest was taken. The seed grain or grain for the subsistence of the Kirsdas and their families, which was required usually by the poor classes of the agricul-turists were also advanced by the Putel at 25% interest without a fixed time of payment.[3]

Revenue Management in the Old Muhomedan Principalities.

In the districts ceded by the Nizam to Janoji in --

1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories. p.172.
2. Ibid. p.173.
3. Ibid.

1763 with some previously held, and the Do-Amli area the full share of which was obtained by the Nagpur Government till 1803, were all managed by the old Muhomedan revenue - system. The original revenue system was similar to that of Toorul-mul. By it the lands were measured and classed so that to fix permanently the assessment of each portion. The last measurements and classifications were made by Murshed-Quli-Khan one of Shah Jehan's officers about 173 years ago. This system had however failed though it could not be ascertained as to why.[1]

The collections were reduced and Burguns -- imposed in different times making the rates to vary. Though some of the old forms were preserved, the principles had undergone a total change. The rent varied as in the - other districts from the same causes and all the village - lands were open to annual alterations in the apportionment of their assessment.[2]

Since the Do-Amli districts were immediately - under the Nizam's officers the Marathas had no hand in the matter of its revenue management. They however introduced changed forms of village papers wherever they had undivided control. They removed Durs or rates on different kinds of land and introduced an uniform yearly Dhara on the whole and as the statement of the measurement served as the Ain

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.173-74.
2. Ibid, p.174.

the system was quite assimilated to the more general one already described.[1] In these districts the village establish--ment was the same except that the Putel's office was here--ditary and was of more value as he with the petty perqui--sites got 15% on the whole land revenue. His share was however liable to reduction or even to total resumption to make up deficiencies of the Kamil Jumma of Murshed-Quli-Khan. If the Putel's share was distributed amongst his descendants, they were all jointly responsible to remit all deficiencies in any year's assessment from their own pocket. If necessary the whole of the Putel's dues may be sold -- without his consent. If the Putel was unable to manage his affairs he usually transferred his charge to the Mustajir or renter until such time as he was able to take up the management himself. No length of time without the office deprived him of his post which was imprescriptable. A Putel dying without heirs could adopt on death-bed or sell his office. The Maratha government did not allow this. It appoint--ed Ijardar Putels to the vacant place.[2]

In these districts Deshmukhs and Despandias were also appointed. They got 5% and 2½% respectively on the Kamil Jumma and had also a share on the Siwai Jumma -- collections. These officers held hereditary rights to their post but they could not sell it.[3] These Rusoom Zemindari were not exactly 7½% on the land revenue but on the fixed Kamil

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.174-5.
2. Ibid, p.175.
3. Ibid, p.176.

Jumma. If the Jumma increased they did not benefit. ----- At the same time if it decreased they had to remit the -- deficiency from their own dues which became less in propor--tion. Their duty was to assist in the revenue settlement and in particular to make the Tufreek or apportionment pf the Purganah assessment on the several villages. The Des--pandia prepared the revenue papers having Pandias under -- him.[1]

The Marathas discontinued the Zemindars in some places though they allowed them their dues.[2] Wherever they discharged their duties the Zemindars were influential -- among the community but whether they benefited the Government or the people was doubtful.

Till 1792 the Maratha management was prosperous and was liked but in the years following misrule had begun, till it became really bad when Raghuji placed heavier imposts to maintain his army after he had lost his wealth in the War of 1803. The reign of Appa Sahib made matters worse as exactions and plunder increased until the Putels and the ryots were both in a bankrupt state.[3]

The Sayer. Sayer was a tax on home produce passing from one part of the country to another or beyond the --- country's boundaries; on foreign productions in transit and

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.176-7.
2. Ibid, p.177.
3. Ibid, pp.177-8.

on numerous other lesser articles of miscellaneous descrip--tion e.g. on sales, stamping cloth, and on several petty - monopolies.[1]

The Kullalee or Abkaree. was a tax on contracts or licenses for the selling of spirituous liquors.

The Sewaee was a tax which included numerous -- petty imposts of different kinds.

The Pandry was a cess on houses, calculated to fall on those who were not agriculturists or those paying land revenue.[2]

The Sayer and some of the taxes included in Sawaee were usually farmed out to individuals.

The City Customs fell under the general term of Sayer and were drawn up as follows. All duties on import, export in transit, with those paid by the inhabitants of the city were termed Hukum Hassil dues.[3]

The Zemindari Duty was levied on imported grain only upto 8 pailees for every cart load. But Raghuji II made it 1/- Re. for a cart load and gradually increased it and levied it on all articles paying Hukum Hassil dues also.[4]

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories. p.219.
2. Ibid. pp.219-20.
3. Ibid. pp.224-25.
4. Ibid. p.230.

The Goor Kirana was also a duty in kind but Rughuji II made a demand of money payment after the 1803 War.

The Pysaroo & Nikasoo were synonymous with imports and exports and Uba Marg and Ruheet Mall with Urr-rasta were all - strictly transit duties.[1]

In the Sayer account of the city was included the -- amount realised from the Sayer of the villages situated in - the Nagpur Parganah and amounting in number to about 360.

It was usual in Rughuji II's time and that of Appa - Sahib's to give certain duties of the Sayer in his Izarah and keep the remainder in Amanee. The Zemindari, Kullalee, Goor Kirana and duties on wood and other minor articles were farmed out to the highest bidder. The stamp duty and taxes on houses and shops were always in Amanee and the collected revenue was then assigned to the Raja's favourite. The mint was not included in the Sayer but it was attached to the Silkakhana.[2]

THE UBARY OR TRIBUTE & ACCOUNT OF THE ZEMINDARS.

Deogarh below the Ghauts: In this quarter there were - practically no Zemindars.[3]

Wyne Gunga Districts : The Zemindars of these districts were in Lanjhee, Sahungurhee and Pertaubgarh between the Wyne

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.225.
2. Ibid, 329-30.
3. Ibid, p.238.

Gunga and Lanjhee range of hills. Those of Lanjhee were thirteen in number. The important ones were Comptah and Terrora. Comptah was given to Ram Putel by Raghuji I for a rent of 60 Rs. Afterwards Huttah and other taluks were added which brought in Terrora. To Ram Putel succeeded his brother Gondu, who was followed by his son Chimna. In 1818 because of his rebellion Chimna lost his right to the -- Zemindari and one Nerbhut was placed there by the British management. The next important Zemindari was of Dunseewah which had originally belonged to Huttah, but was given to Willayutkhan Pathan by Gondu Putel of Comptah for a fixed rent of 600 Rs. After a quarrel with Chimna the Maratha - Government conferred the Zemindari by Huttah on Willayutkhan. The other Zemindaries were of Bhanara and Bhurgaon/which and were of equal value. The former was owned by Jynudinkhan Pathan the Subahdar of Lanjhee and the latter by the family of Rudra Putel whose ancestor got it from Raghuji Kurande when quite deserted. The other smaller Zemindaries were of little importance.[1]

The Zemindars in Suhungurhee and Pertaubgerh were twelve and six in number respectively.[2]

Most of the Zemindaries in these districts with the exception of Comptah and Terrora were in the hills or immediately under them.[3]

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.238-40.
2. Ibid, p.240.
3. Ibid.

The Marathas granted the Zemindaries to the Gonds and Rajputs as rewards or to ensure tranquillity when the country was unsettled in the past. By some old Sunnuds these Zemindars paid fixed rent and supplied soldiers to help the Government officials in Police matters. They were entirely on sufferance but were absolute masters of their lands. The rent demanded varied as opportunity offered. They often fought -- amongst themselves and sometimes joined together to rebel against the Maratha yoke. They were averse to industry and being poor were oppressive managers of their lands.[1]

Chhutteesgarh : The Zemindars of Chhutteesgarh were divided into two sections. Those of the western quarter called the Khullotee included the important ones of Khyragarh, -- Dongergarh and Nandgaon and the lesser ones of Kondka, Gundye, Sohugpore, Lohara and Takur Tola. The Khyragarh Zemindar -- prided himself on being a descendant of the old Hindu dynasty of Mundla. That of Nandgaon was a descendant of a Byragi --- family. The rest were all of Gond extract. Except for the -- larger Zemindaries which were ruled on more civilised lines, the rest followed the old methods of rule and paid very little revenue.[2]

In the north-west of Chhutteesgarh lay the Zemindaries of Kowerdah and Pandareeah. These Zemindars were of high noble

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.240.
2. Ibid.,pp.241-2.

Gond family. The high road to Mundla and Jubbulpur passed through their lands. During Appa Sahib's rebellion they had privately helped against the British but were better dispos--ed afterwards. The other Zemindars in this section were of Paindra, Maten, Uproda and Kainda all situated in the hills north and east of Ruttunpur. Those of Chooree, Koorba and Chappa were on the eastern frontier. South of these and of the Mahnudy river adjoining the Sumbulpur district were the petty Zemindaries of Kondwan, Sonakun, Bhutgaon,Beklygur, Kuttingur, Cowria, Birkoonee, Soormar etc. These were all - very poor Zemindaries located in the hills and jungles and paid very little tribute.[1]

Kankair: The Chiefs in Kankair were called the Rajas. This Zemindari lay south of Raipur by 40 miles. The family of the Raja was very ancient and held its right from the Marathas on condition of furnishing 500 fighting men free of expense.[2]

Kuronde Zemindari lay 100 miles in the south east of Chhutteesgarh. It was 90 miles long and 66 miles broad. It was known as Kala Handi onnthe maps. It was very mountain--ous and woody divided into 18 Gurhs or petty Zemindaries, inhabited by Koads who were wild men and who paid on --- compulsion.[3]

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories,pp.242-3.
2. Ibid, pp.245-6.
3. Ibid, p.246.

Bustar was rather more than 200 miles and a little less in breadth. It was very woody and hilly. Only valleys were cultivated and it was partially cleared of jungles. Bustar paid 10000 Rupees as revenue but through the medium of Cowries which often fluctuated in value.[1]

The Chanda District lay east of the Wyne Gunga and stretched along its bank. The land did not reach the ---- Godavary because the narrow strip on both banks of the river belonged to Hyderabad. This strip was occupied by the Yulmees who gave a lot of trouble to the Bhonsles by their raids. It was only by 1815 that they became quiet.

The lands of most of the Zemindars of Chanda being -- amongst mountains and jungles paid very little and gave no hope of a passage through them to the coast.[2]

Deogarh above the Ghauts : Here the Gond Zemindars - were called Thakurs. They were of Hurrye, of Bhutragarh, of Raeerhera, of Pachmari, of Pugara, of Almoat,of Bhurdagarh and of Sonepur. These Thakurs were feudatory Chiefs from a long time under the Gonds as well as under the Marathas.Their wild unproductive country prevented their subjugation. The - Maratha policy was to sport the strongest amongst them who could rule all. But the Maratha method had failed as the -- Government agents changed side as it suited them and there was

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.247-49.
2. Ibid.pp.249-51.

always disorder in the district. When Appa Sahib fled from his escort he took shelter amongst them and these Thakurs joined him to a man. They defended him and refused to give him up though tempted with large rewards. The -- military operations against them were successful in putting every one in British hands. The capture of Chyne Shah by Major Obrien finished the campaign. Living in wild jungle lands the people here were not self-supporting. They became raiders and plunderers. The Zemindars having mercenary -- troops were obliged to find employment for them in other districts, so naturally they were the most refractory -- of the Nagpur subjects.[1]

JUSTICE & POLICE.

Justice : Under the Marathas there were no -- regularly constituted Courts of Justice in the country -- except the one in the City of Nagpur for the trial of petty offences which had been established by Mudhoji in 1776 in which a Musulman presided.

Civil Justice : The Civil Justice was administer--ed by the Raja, the Kumaishdar and the Putel not according to any written law or following any customs well adhered to and understood, but according to his own opinion or partia--lity.[2] The Muhomedan law was administered to the Musulmans

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.252-57.
2. Ibid. p.264.

and the Hindu written law of inheritance as interpreted by the principal Shastras was followed only when there was a disputed succession. In the punishment of the --- criminals certain general rules were adhered to except -- when particular reasons needed a departure from them. There were no fixed rules of jurisdiction. Cases of minor --- importance fell into the hands of subordinate function--aries whilst those of greater consequence were decided by the higher powers. The Raja decided generally on suits involving above a thousand Rupees; but at times he referred them to a Punchayat. The Kumaishdar if needed, took the - advice of the Furnavis, the Murar Pandia or the Putel -- whilst judging. Usually he decided himself or appointed a Punchayat whose decision he enforced.[1]

The Jagirdars within their limits judged like the Kumaishdars and often assumed more authority.- A Putel could not decide civil suits but appointed Courts of arbitration. An appeal could be made to the Raja from sentence of inferior authorities.[2]

Civil suits cost a lot of money so there was -- little litigation carried to the Government officials. The Sukrana or one-fourth of the sum awarded or recovered was paid to the Government. Similarly Zurinama or fine of one--fourth was paid by the person who lost the suit.[3]

1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.265.
2. Ibid.,p.265.
3. Ibid.

The Bhut Masala or fee paid to the Mumaishdar to defray the expenses of summoning the defendant which was- generally 5 to 10 Rupees. The person summoned had to support the man who served the summons with Roz or Khorak of 2 or - 3 annas with daily food. When the Raja summoned by horsemen or camel Hirkaras their expenses of 20 to 40 Rupees per day were to be paid by the person summoned. Owing to these --- costly methods, the people preferred to settle disputes -- amongst themselves by the institutions and practice of the country.[1]

In a village the Mahjan was the elected arbitrator of the Putels and the Ryots jointly. He was generally a -- Maratha Hoinbee and in general decided all disputes amongst that class - The Tilees, Koshtees, Burdhans etc, had Seteyahs as their heads who decided between them. If their decisions were unsatisfactory a Panchayat of Seteyahs was called who judged finally. Occasionally was the Raja referred to but not often.[2]

The Punchayats dealt with succession of properties, boundaries, trespasses of cattle, advances of Putels and - Sahukars, non-performance of contracts etc. The Putel assembl- -ed the Punchayat which collected on the Chubutra or terrace of the Mahdeo to sanctify their oath of the just performance

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.265-6.
2. Ibid, p.266.

of their duty. Most respectable people of any caste or profession were chosen. The Putel mentioning their names those objected to by the litigants were changed. Sometimes each party chose an equal number and another was chosen mutually. Before starting on work the parties were asked whether they would abide by the decision.[1] In important cases when parties were known to be litigious, a written Razinama was exacted.

The proceedings of village Punchayats were rare-ly recorded. The Plaintiff and his witnesses were first heard and examined then the defendant and his. The --- evidences and friends of both parties were allowed to be present and they often interfered leading to much confusion and decisions were often carried by acclamation but at -- times the trial went on for days. Rich litigants supplied victuals, betel, tobacco for the members and amongst the Gonds liquors were introduced and disgraceful scenes took place.[2].

When higher authorities assembled the Punchayat the proceedings were written down for reference. Witnesses were kept separate during examination and no interference permitted with members. The person who assembled the Puncha-yat had to see to its decision being carried out.[3]

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.266-7.
2. Ibid. p.267.
3. Ibid.

The boundary disputes in villages were often settled in two ways. One when the "Emaun" was performed agreeble to both parties i.e. the Kotwar with a bundle of grass from the disputed field and a skin of cow or buffalo on his head point-ed out the true limits, before the attendance of many people including the Putel. If the Putel whose Kotwar performed the Emaun loses any part of his property, a bullock or cow etc. -- within a month the Emaun was false and the decision went in the favour of the opponent.[1] The second method left more to -- chance i.e. names of deities were placed in a vessel and if the first name drawn out is the same as that decided on in the beginning, the claim was just or vice versa.[2]

Criminal Justice : Deciding on criminal cases the Raja or the Kumaishdars followed certain customary general rules. If there was house-breaking and the sufferer can identify the offender and the property, the latter would be restored after a deduction of one-fourth for the Sirkar. The offender was put in iron and his property confiscated.[3] If a thief was caught in the act he would be stopped and slapped or given blows with - slipper and let off. If taken to the thana he would be flogged and confined in stocks for 15 to 20 days or a month and if he could pay was fined. If the offences were repeated the criminal would be allowed till the tenth time when further repetition -- caused the mutilation of their nose, hands or fingers. If it was

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.268.
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid.

a gang robbery, the offenders were put in a sort of pillory erected near most of the villages, then flogged until the property was discovered with their accomplices. If the -- Government servant found the lost property, one-fourth -- went to the Government but if the person who lost it -- discovered it, the whole was restored to him. If the person robbed was wounded the offenders were mutilated and for - murder death was the punishment.[1]

Women and Brahmins were exempted from capital punishment for murder. A woman causing domestic murder e.g. a husband, lost her nose.[2]

Murder charge could be compounded with the -- deceased relatives at their wish. For 350 Rupees the -- relative or heir gave in acceptance a release note or --- Farighkhutee. Sometimes the property of the murderer was also seized by the Government.[3]

Fornication : A woman caught in the act was -- brought to the thana and asked to name her paramours. The men were punished without evidence by heavy fines which in part went to the Government and part to the officer. The woman was given over to her caste and punished according to their award.[4]

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.268-9.
2. Ibid, p.269.
3. Ibid, pp.269-70.
4. Ibid, p.270.

Coiners lost their hands which were crushed by a blow from a heavy mallet or pestle. For cheating and swindling, men were flogged, imprisoned or fined.[1]

Police : There was not a regular Police force during the Maratha regime but the Rajas had been in the habit of -- employing a body of men known as the Hirkaras for their ---- espionage service. These with the Kumaishdars and the Butels did the Police work.[2]

Neither prevention or detection was based on any fixed plan coming from or having to do anything with the higher --- authority. It was the self defence which kept the village --- alert. On the other hand the higher authority set bad examples by keeping band of robbers to prey on strangers and travellers and those whom he particularly wished to deprive of extra --- wealth. The Raja's relatives followed his example and people avoided having wealth to be in peace and safety.[3]

AGRICULTURE. MANUFACTURE. TRADE & COMMERCE.

Agriculture in the Nagpur territories was not ---- unfamiliar to those in existence in other parts of India. The land was classified in two manners. One according to the produce it fetched, was Khureef, Rubbee and Bughait. The other was ---

1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.270.
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid, p.271.

according to the quality of the soil. In this classifica-
-tion the rich black loam was called Kalee, the looser -
earth mixed with small stones was known as Kurdee and the
last was the reddish earth found on rocky substrata known
as Burdee.[1]

The Khureef crop were besides rice which was chiefly produced in the districts of the Wyne Gunga,Chanda and Chhutteesgarh, Kodoo, Kootkee and Sawa with the ----- important crop of Juwari and Toor. Under the rubbee crop came wheat, Chenna, Ulsee, Moong, Til,Sesame,Muhsoor and Erundi.[2] The ploughing for the Khureef harvest begins in June. All the inequalities of the surface are levelled over by the paring plough used about twice over. The actual -- ploughing than proceeds and is applied about three to four times before the sowing of the seed. The sowing follows the first fall of rain. The Toor and Cotton are usually sown in alternate ridges whilst Juwar and Moong go together. The - Juwar crop which is the most impprtant throws out its head in September and is ripe in November or December.[3]

The rice crop which is next in importance is sown in different manners in different districts. The returns of rice are on an average tenfold, sometimes twenty and not -- frequently, only five. The crop depends mostly on the supply

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.71.
2. Ibid. pp.71-2.
3. Ibid, p.73.

of water.[1]

The ground for the Rubbee crop is generally pared in June or July and left unused till the end of rains. It is then ploughed again to remove wild growth. If the season has given a heavy fall of rain followed by a long cessation of it, the ground becomes hard and caked and requires great and emergent labour, to prepare the ground for the sowing in November and December. The crop ripens in February and is cut in March.[2]

The principal garden crop of the Nagpur territories was sugarcane. It was chiefly cultivated in Deogarh above the Ghats and in the Wyne Gunga districts. It required a highly efficient knowledge of agriculture with sufficient capital and a great amount of industry and care. The crop grew to its full size, and ready for cutting after a period of eleven months. The sugarcane was then squeezed into a mill consisting of two upright cylinders of wood which worked together by a perpetual screw. Two pair of bullocks turned the mill. The juice was then boiled to a proper consistency and poured into a cooler. About four thousand maunds of Goor was produced in the two principal Purgannas of the Wyne Gunga district.[3]

The lesser products after sugarcane were Pan or

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.74.
2. Ibid, pp.74-5.
3. Ibid, pp.77-78.

Betel creeper, Turmeric, Plantain, Tobacco,Ganja. Opium was very scarcely cultivated, Dyes were the Al or Morinda, citriflolia and the Saffflower or Kussum. The principal oils were the Til or Sesame, Ulsee or linseed and Erundi or -- castor.[1]

Cotton which was produced in Deogarh, in the - north west parts of Berar and Chhutteesgarh[2] was grown --- during Khureef as well as Rubbee seasons.[3]

The agriculturists here did not follow strictly the methods of rotating their crops or leaving their -- fields, fallow for some time. Wheat being a standard crop was seldom changed. In the case of Chenna it was alternat-ed with Lakh whilst cotton and Toor gave place to Juwar. Sugarcane sometimes was changed with turmeric,yams and - carrots. To fertilise the Rubbee waste land, usually Ulsee or Chenna were sown for the first and second year, to give place to wheat in the third year. Similarly about Khureef waste land rice or other small grains were cultivated, to give place after two years, to a better product.[4]

The state of the agriculturists themselves was not very happy. With a few bullocks and his ploughing -- implements, given a fair season he produced enough to pay

1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories,pp.78-9.
2. Early European Travellers in Nagpur, pp.139-41.
3. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories,p.80.
4. Ibid.

the Putel and prepare for the coming year. If he did not suffer under the huge strain of debts, he lived comfortably in those days. But invariably the credit of these farmers was low and they usually groaned under the heavy toll of interests to pay.

Manufacture : The state of manufacture in the State of Nagpur was very poor. The implements and processes for these manufactures were of the same rude and simple - nature which was in practice in most parts of India. The - manufacture of common cloth particularly for the peasantry was in existence in almost all the districts.[1] Cotton cloths of better quality called Bhyrows were made by Dher weavers; the best were made in Nagpur. Selas for Duputtees, of good quality came from Pownee and Chanda. Doreeas of several -- kinds, Charkhanee, Sillaidar and imitations of those from - Bengal etc. came principally from Brahmapuri and Pownee. Patuls or Saris either plain or stripped with a silk border from five to forty rupees a piece, of fourteen to eighteen cubits long and from two and a quarter to three broad were woven best at Nagpur and Umrer. The Dhoties with silk and Selan tissue borders, cost from seven to eight Rupees per pair to 80/- Rs. to order. The cheaper and plainer cost, from a rupee to 25/- Rupees. The best were made in Nagpur and Umrer.[2]

With the above white cotton cloths were manufactured

1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.86.
2. Ibid, pp.86-87.

coloured cotton cloths as well. This kind of cloth prepared from dyed thread were of two sorts, either Kucha or Pukka according to the lasting nature of the dye. The turbans were made of all colours, the most expensive was red from safflower and the cheapest was brown from the bark of the mango tree. The clothes for women with fixed dye were made of four colours, dark blue from indigo, light blue, red -- from the Al or Morinda and green. Nagpur manufactured the best coloured cloth.[1]

Like the cotton clothsfor various apparel, silk clothsof a few variety were also manufactured in the Nagpur State for the male and female attire. The cloths were made of either silk or silk and cotton mixed or of the wild - silk called Tusur or that made of the last mixed with cotton. The City of Nagpur manufactured most of the silk cloths which industry reached a state of excellence, in the time of Raghuji II who induced the best workmen from Pytun on the Godavary, Zynabad and Burhanpur to come and settle in Nagpur.[2]

The woollen cloths manufactured in the country were only coarse blankets and Numdahs for domestic use of the value of one or two rupees each.[3]

The only cloth manufactured from Sun or hemp

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.88-9.
2. Ibid, pp.89-90.
3. Ibid, pp.90-91.

was the coarse Tatputtee used for grain bags Sulletahs etc.[1]

Besides the manufacture of cloth the Nagpur State produced utensils of copper and mixed metal. These were manufactured principally at Bhundara, Ruttunpur and Chanda. The Kusars or braziers who manufactured them had also the sole right to sell such articles.[2]

Trade & Commerce : In the matter of trade and commerce the City of Nagpur served as the centre from which most of the business of the country was done. To it were - brought most of the commodities from foreign parts and -- from here they were distributed all over the country.

Internal Trade : The City sent out manufactur--ed articles of its own to the other districts and imported from them common necessaries of life like grains and cloths of different descriptions for its inhabitants. The City - distributed to the districts articles of prime necessities (which it had imported) such as salt, saltpetre, sulphur, metals,cocoanuts, spices etc. with cloths of foreign as well as home manufacture.[3]

Foreign Trade : Nagpur imported salt from Berar and Concan for the need of Deogarh and also from the

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.91
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid.

Eastern Coast for Chhutteesgarh and Chanda - From -- Mirzapur was received shawls, Kinkhabs, silks both raw and wrought, and different kinds of muslin - From Dacca it imported piecegoods and chitzes, raw sugar and sugar--candy, indigo and Kirana; the last named included spices and drugs of all kinds - Bundelkhund sent it red Kharwas, piecegoods, small quantity of sugar, Kirana and saltpetre.- From Bombay and Surat which transferred articles from -- Europe and China the City imported some goods, pearls, corals and salt.

Nagpur exported to foreign parts cloths,raw cotton, Goor, grain and small quantity of stick lac.[1]

Most of the Mirzapur and Benares trade was in the hands of Gosains residing in Nagpur. They even - controlled the trade of the countries south and west of Nagpur when the route by Surguja and Chhutteesgarh became safer than that by Rewah and Jubbulpur.[2] The trade in -- indigo, sugar, and Kirana from the north, with Kharwas and chintzes from Bundelkhund was in the hands of -- Chutterpurias who were agents of the mercantile houses in Chutterpur.[3] The trade in the above articles became profitable owing to the adoption of transport via --

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.92.
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid, p.93.

Surguja and Chhutteesgarh but later when the route changed by that of Umraoti it declined in importance.

The trade with Bombay and Surat dealing particular--ly in European and Chinese goods, was in the hands of Bohras who had settled in Burhanpur from where they conducted their business with Nagpur and the Western Coast. The Eastern trade was carried on by Uriyas and Gumastas of the trading houses in Cuttack and Juggernaut.[1]

Banking Transactions : Most of the Sahukars in the country were Marwaries. In the City of Nagpur there were only two banking houses conducted by Brahmins. The bankers and -shroffs generally made their profits from : The purchase of receipt on the spot, about a bullion transaction and which they sold afterwards at dearer rate than that at which they bought it. The importation from other quarters of gold and silver or copper coins, bullion and ornaments which they -- disposed of at a profit. Granting bills on other quarters and giving loans on the interest with the buying of objection--able rupees at a discount and reselling the same on more -advantageous terms were the other forms of business. Some of them made money out of the fluctuations in the current value of copper coins and Cowries.[2]

The business of the lesser class of bankers like

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.93.
2. Ibid, pp.96-7.

Mahajans, Bunias and Sunars was connected also with the money market but their transactions were more -- limited. Their interest on loans were higher.

The Sahukars traded in merchandise of various kinds both in the country and outside it. They dealt chiefly in Mirzapur goods. They also bought the goods of the country and exported it.[1]

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.97.

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APPENDIX A.

A.1

To,

The Right Honourable

Earl of Mornington

Governor-General.

My Lord,

Paragraph 6th. Under the impressions I had of the real drift of what had been said, I judged this to be a better -- opportunity than I had even expected for opening a -- negotiation as commanded by your Lordship, I therefore added that so far from making a secret to him of -- measures taken to defeat the designs of Tippu your -- Lordship considered him as a party to the existing ---- defensive alliance with the Paishwa in which he as a - Marhatta State was included. That since the enemies of the allied States had shown their hostile disposition it seemed desirable for the common defence to define the basis of quadruple alliance on the basis of the triple one, His engagements as a party virtually included in the existing Treaty of with the Paishwa and the Nizam.

" 9th. Apprehending inconvenience in the progress of the negotiation from an apparent misapprehension which - struck me in the term used by the Moonshi between the two States I asked him whether he had expressed to the

Rajah the term I had employed a Treaty of quadruple --- alliance• He said he had not and asked what occasion there could be to make four States parties to a new treaty when we already had a treay of Alliance with two of them and which very treaty I named as the basis of the new one. In reply I repeated what I had already said respecting the - Rajah's virtual engagements and added that a separate Treaty wpuld constitute an alliance with the British Government only, instead of being with all the allies and to obviate an answer he seemed prepared to make I further said that it might perhaps be deemed uncandid to make a separate Treaty unknown to or exclusive of the other allies, He asked me whether it was indispensably necessary to make both the - other States acquainted with and parties to the Treaty• I answered that whether it were make known to the Peshwa -- immediately or not it would I supposed be proper to compre- -hend him and this might be done by concerning the treaty with the Nizam and allowing the Paishwa the opinion option of acceding to it when he judged proper. I added that I - mentioned this merely by way of explanation, not for the purpose of including a present discussion when the Rajah had already the further consideration of the subject to a future Conference• Sridhur Pundit explained this to the - Rajah who acquiesced but his countenance indicated that he would have been better pleased with the negotiation of a Separate Treaty and that he felt some disappointment in my

having proposed a joint one.

Paragraph 10th. I could have wished to have obtained a full disclosure of the Rajas sentiments before I added anything to what I first said but the misapprehension arising from the Moonshees suppression of a single term rendered an - explanation necessary and it seemed the more strongly so as the motives of the Rajah for wishing a separate rather than a Joint Treaty may possibly be incompatible with his duties to the Paishwa. His unwillingness to acknowledge himself bound by the existing engagements of the Paishwa the terms used in waving the acknowledgments of such an - obligation that which was employed in speaking of Bajee Rao's elevation joined to the hint I received from -- Bissumber Pundit and which I had the honour to mention to your Lordship all co-operated with the impression of your Lordship's particular injunctions on my mind to make me under necessity of being so far explicit with the view of discouraging in the earliest stage of the business any sentiments. the Raja may have entertained inconsistent with his duty to the Peshwa.

Nagpore (Signed) H.Colebrooke
26th March 1799. Resident.

A.2.

To

The Right Honourable

Earl of Mornington,

Governor-General.

My Lord,

On the 20th instant I sent a message to remind the Rajah that a long time had elapsed since our last Conference he prevented the delivery of the message by himself appointing the next morning for an interview, - apologising at the same time for the delay which had - occurred. I waited on him accordingly and he opened the Conference by fully acceding to the proposal of a treaty of alliance which he said was highly proper and acceptable. Since it would confirm and strengthen the bonds of friend--ship and would not only be satisfactory to the Nizam and the Resh Paishwa but would also increase the existing -- friendship with those powers. The Moonshee then proceeded to ask in the Rajah's name a fuller explanation of the - form in which I propose that the treaty should be formed. I stated in reply that it would contain a reciprocal -- guarantee of the possessions of the Contracting parties including the rights of their allies so that in case of aggression by any enemy of the allied States they would

all co-operate to repel the enemy.

Paragraph 13
line 13. If then in consequence of the alliance now - agreed on he should share the afflictions he ought also to participate in the benefits of war. That he did not - state this as an excuse or objection, for he was at all events ready to enter into the proposed alliance.

(Signed) H.Colebrooke,
Resident.

Nagpore,
26th April 1799.

NAGPUR RESIDENCY RECORDS

VOLUME I LETTER NO.10.

A.3

To,

The Right Honourable

The Earl of Mornington,

Governor-General.

My Lord,

Paragraph 5. Sridher Pundit postponed until a future day the desired communication of the Raja's sentiments respecting affairs at Poona and the conduct of Scindia in particular, I hope soon to have the honour of reporting to your ---- Lordship a Conference on this subject.

" 6. In this conversation I remarked some change of opinion respecting Scindia since my Conference with the - Rajah his minister then insisted on the near probability of a reconciliation between Dowlut Row and the widows of Madhaji Scindia - he now treats it as an event distant if not improbable though he continues to disbelieve the hostile designs ascribed to Daulat Row Scindia he seems to intimate that his Court is well disposed to enter into defensive engagements against that chieftan and he has not revived the objections so strongly urged by the Rajah against forming these engagements without the previous - knowledge of the Peshwa.

Nagpore (Signed) H.Colebrooke.

27th June 1799. Resident,

A.4.

To,

The Right Honourable

Earl of Mornington,

Governor-General.

My Lord,

Paragraph 3. Sridher Pundit had not yet fulfilled his promise of giving the information which waxx was required of him as reported in my last address. My Moonshee reminded him of the subject by my orders but he again postpined it. He assures me that authentic intelligence has been received of Daulat Rao's having withdrawn his troops from the - Nizam's frontier, and remarks with some self approbation that the event confirms the Rajas and his own opinion of Dawlat Raos not having entertained hostile designs. He adds that Scindia will soon return to Hindustan - His --- intelligence was partly confirmed by what Captain ----- Kirkpatrick had lately communicated to me; but I did not think it necessary to make any immediate answer combating the inference Sridher Pundit draws from the present --- pacific measures of Scindia.

(Signed) H.Colebrooke,

Resident.

Nagpore

11th July 1919.

A.5.

To,

The Right Honourable

Earl of Mornington,

Governor_General.

My Lord;

Paragraph 3. Since I had the honour to report to your - Lordship a conversation between Sridher Pundit and my Moonshee on the 27th June nothing further has passed regarding the negotiations begun at this Court Having been subsequently informed by Captain Kirkpatrick that a negotiation was pending at Poona and that Dawlut Rao Scindia had issued orders to his troops to refrain from all aggression on the Nizam's territories. I directed my Moonshee not to revive the subject of Sridher's - promised communication of the Raja's sentiments on - Sridher's situation and conduct. Sridher has not revived it himself any further than by occasionally mentioning ..... intelligence as is received here regarding the progress made towards a reconciliation of Daulat Rao with the widow of Mahdaji Scindia - I have since learnt from Captain Kirkpatrick that it is your --- Lordship's pleasure the negotiation with the Rajah of berar should remain suspended I therefore conceive

I shall act ~~agreeably~~ agreeably to your Lordships intention by not only continuing to take further - steps in it until I have the honour to receive your commands but by avoiding any discussion of the subject if the Rajah or his Ministers should themselves resume it.

(Signed) H.Colebrooke,
Resident,

Nagpore
1st August 1799.

A.6

To,

The Right Honourable

Earl of Mornington,

Governor-General.

My Lord,

Paragraph 2. The persons from whom I first received -- intelligence respecting the Military establishment of Berar stated it to me at its full complement -- without a sufficient deduction for the deficiencies of the several corps which compose the Raja's army - Some time ago he raised the two brigades the complement of which was fixed at 2 thousand men each including - regular horse and it was intended to augment their strength to 12000 men. But neither Brigade has been ever completed nor have they been regularly recruit--ed - Being ill paid many of the soldiers have desert--ed or taken their discharges and the Brigades are from this and other causes much reduced - I consider their strength as overrated at 15000 men; and I have some grounds for thinking that the aggregate force of both corps falls two or three thousands short of that number- The troops are very imperfectly disciplined and the - artillery attached to the Brigades is far from being well appointed. The only conspicuous trial of them - hitherto made was at the siege of Husangabad and so - little progress was then made by the besiegers, that the

place though strong neither by nature nor by art would not have been taken had it not been voluntarily surrendered by the garrison who found themselves --- abandoned by the chieftain of Bhopal.

paragraph 3. Besides these Brigades the Raja of Berar has several corps which constitute what might be termed his household troops; namely a body of Arabs; another of Pathans; one of foot soldiers armed with carabines; a few Companies of Sepoys clothed as well as armed -- after the European model; and several Corps of Maratha horse serving as guards. The establishment of infantry under one of the Commanders was originally fixed at 4000 men - The remaining Corps of infantry never -- equalled that number - All are now much reduced through desertions occasioned by disgust at the want of ----- punctuality in the payment of their allowances.

" 4. The Maratha horse I am credibly imformed - does not now exceed ten thousand. Upon intelligence first obtained here I stated a greater number; but I now find that the estimate included troops, which are employed in the local duties of remote districts and - which cannot be counted in the effective strength of the Raja's army.

" 5. On reviewing the whole of the information

which I at present possess/ there appears sufficient - ground for thinking that the Raja might bring into the fields the number of troops mentioned in the letter I had the honour to address your Lordship on the 14th -- April last; but the utmost strength of his present army /does not exceed that force - The troops which compose it are neither well appointed nor properly disciplined and the infantry, especially is far inferior to the regular corps in the service of the native princes who have - engaged European Officers to discipline their forces.

Paragraph 6. With my former statement of the amount of the Raja's revenue, I remembered that the information I had then received was much exaggerated - I am now fully --- confined in that opinion; and the most correct intelligence which I have yet obtained leads me to believe that the - Rajah does not annually realize one crore of rupees. His treasure deposited at the Fort Guwil, would be the ~~xxxxx~~ resource for any unusual exigency and having already -- recurred to it on two occasions he would probably do so again upon emergency. I have not made it an object of - particular inquiry; but its reputed amount is three crores of Rupees, and this does not appear an exaggerated estimate when the frugality of his predecessors is remembered.

" 7. I have already had the honour to mentioned to your Lordship that the troops in the Raja's service are ill paid

The same want of punctuality pervades in every --- department of expenditure. It is attended with some degree of meanness in the Raja's dealings with those who have demands on his treasury; and the instances of such meanness which have come to my knowledge are so numerous that I cannot but attribute its prevalency as much to his own temper as to the disorder, in which his finances are seemingly involved - With the habit of administering his own affairs and attending to the - detail of trivial matters as well as important business he could not shut his eyes to any real disorder in his finances and it is difficult to believe he would ---- deliberately frame a scale of expenditure surpassing - his resources, while no state of exigency calls for -- extraordinary efforts - Opposing this reflexion to the appearance of pecuniary want, I still doubt whether his revenues be really inadequate to his standing expenses; and I beg leave to postpone offering a decided opinion-- On this point until I have seen the genuine accounts - which I hope to procure.

(Signed) H.Colebrooke,
Resident.

Nagpore
9th August 1799.

NAGPUR RESIDENCY RECORDS

VOL.I LETTER NO.24

A.7

To,

The Right Honourable

Earl of Mornington,

Governor-General.

My Lord,

Paragraph 4. During the last month and especially since troops have been in motion to proceed towards the -- frontier I have had better opportunities, than before of forming an opinion of the Military strength of his Government. That part of the Raja of Berar's infantry which is armed with muskets though constituting in the Rajah's own opinion his chief strength does in reality add little to his Military power. The sepoys are so - very imperfectly disciplined that they cannot be said to have learnt the use of fire arms and they are wholly ignorant of manouvres. The corps of ~~mounted~~ dismounted carabineers were it even numerous and well disciplined, would be insignificant, because their arms which are more properly blunderbuss than carabines are ill-suited for a body of infantry - Concerning the Corps of Arabs and of Pathans it is sufficient to say that they are - armed and ~~mounted~~ accoutred in the ancient manner and are not accustomed to a discipline which can fit them - for acting with effect in the field - The artillery is (as I have already had the honour to inform your Lordship) ill appointed. The guns do indeed appear to be well cast;

and good cattle is allotted to the ordnance depart-
-ment; but the gun-carriages are ill constructed and
the ammunition and service of the artillery have all
the defects common to the ordnance of native powers.

Paragraph 5. The cavalry is the most efficient part of the
Raja's Military establishment his Pagah horse, and -
that furnished by Silahdars or partisans do not seem
inferior to the cavalry entertained in the same modes
by other Maratha Chieftains but Pindaree or irregular
horse adds more to the numbers than to the strength -
of his army.

" 6. On this subject I have received some information
from an intelligent officer who lately helds a principal
command in the Raja's service - He reckoned the whole -
military establishment of Berar at 55000 men including
the irregular horse and the permanent detachments in -
Cuttack and in other remote provinces. I deem this --
information correct and your Lordship will perceive that
it does not differ materially from that which was formally
submitted to your consideration.

" 7. The radical defect of the Raja's Military --
establishment appears to be the irregular payment of
the army. ~~I~~ I am now fully convinced that the Rajah's

own temper not the want of funds is the cause of his withholding their pay from the troops - The pecuniary resources are more than sufficient for his expenditure - The rental of his possessions exclusive of late --- acquisitions exhibits a gross revenue of 160 lacs of Rupees - How much it will be increased by collections from Gurrah Mandla and other recent annexations is not yet accurately known. I do not implicitly credit the estimates which have been mentioned to me and which state the revenue expected from Gurrah Mundelah etc, at forty lacs of Rupees. But upon a review of all the information I have lately obtained I cannot reckon the gross revenue of the Raja of Berar's territories at an amount much - less than two crores of Rupees; and after making every necessary deduction the ~~next neat revenue~~ net revenue which is realized by him must be rated higher than was done by me when I had before the honour address your - Lordship upon this subject - It cannot be less than 125 lacs from his ancient dominions and will probably amount to 150 lacs when the revenue of Gurrah Mundelah is fully collected.

Nagpore
1st October 1799.

(Signed) H.Colebrooke,
Resident.

NAGPUR RESIDENCY RECORDS

VOL. I LETTER NO.28

A.8

To,

The Right Honourable

Earl of Mornington,

Governor-General.

My Lord,

In my last address I had the honour to acquaint you that Raja Raghoji Bhonsle had proceeded on an -- excursion to meet a part of his family returning from Cuttack. Nothing has since occurred here of sufficient moment to be reported to your Lordship except a cession of the Fort of Mundelah which has been yielded to the - Rajah of Berar together with some territory by the -- Chieftain of Saugor. The intelligence of this event was received here the day preceding the Rajahs return to - Nagpur and as he early intimated to me an intention of addressing a letter to your Lordship on the subject I have waited until this day excepting to transit it with the present despatch. I am informed that the Chieftain of Saugor has made this cession as the purchase of - protection from the Raja of Berar against the depreda- -tions of Jeswant Rao Holkar and that the territory - ceded by him purports to be fourth part of his posses- -sions but I do not learn that any effectual steps have been taken to chastise the depredators.

(Signed) H.Colebrooke,

Nagpore

Resident.

9th December 1799.

NAGPUR RESIDENCY RECORDS- VOL.I LETTER NO.34.

A.9

To,

The Right Honourable

Earl of Mornington,

Governor-General.

My Lord,

Intelligence was yesterday received that the Fort of Sumbulpur has been surprised by the Raja of Berar's troops and taken with little resistence. This occurrence had been deemed of sufficient magni--tude to be announced by a salute which was yesterday fired from the Park of Artillery.

Sumbulpur was the principal fortress of a Chief of mountaineers who takes his title from that place and who holds an extensive tract of country between Chhutteesgarh(i.e.Kuttunpur etc.) and Cuttack. He was nominally subject to his Government but did -- almost maintain independence and only paid small -- tribute very irregularly. Governing a numerous tribe of hardy mountaineers and possessing such a strong - hold as Sumbulpur he had been hitherto able to elude the power of the Rajah of Berar; and all attempts to subdue his country had been invariably failed. The reduction of his strongest fortress will it is thought be now followed by his speedy submission and by the - full ~~establishment~~ establishment of the Maratha ---

authority throughout his territories.

Paragraph 4. Should this success be followed by the - complete reduction of the country belonging to the Chief of Sumbulpur it must certainly be considered as an important event to the Raja of Berar since the strength of his dominions will be much increased by thus connecting different parts of them which were in a manner cut off from each other while an almost -- independent chief occupied an intermediate extensive tract of country.

Nagpore
6th April 1800.

(Signed) H.Colebrooke,
Resident.

NAGPUR RESIDENCY RECORDS

VOL.I LETTER NO.42.

A.10

To,

The Resident at Nagpur.

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honorable the - Governor-General to transmit to you the accompanying copies of letters written by direction of his Lordship on the 12th instant to the Residents at Poona and Hyderabad.

These letters will disclose to you the present views of the Governor-General at the Courts at ---- Hyderabad and Poona and you will also perceive by them the degree of importance which his Lordship attaches to the accession of Raghoji Bhonsle to the alliance which - his Lordship proposes forming with those Courts and particularly to the new Treaty which Captain Kirkpatrick has been authorised to negotiate with His Highness the Nizam.

The objects to be obtained by the proposed with the Court of Nagpore are the same as they were in -- February 1799, when the hostile designs which ~~Scindi~~ Sciendiah was suspected on sufficient frounds to enter--tain against the Company and the Nizam, suggested the expediency of an union of those powers whose interests were most endangered by the violence and ambition of - that Chief.

Circumstances have hitherto prevented Sciendiah - from carrying into execution the hostile designs then imputed to him. But there is abundant reason to apprehend that the same designs continue to be entertained by him and that he only waits a favourable occasion for - giving them effect.

The death of Nana Furnavese having recently removed one of the principal barriers to the ambitious projects of Sciendiah, the probability of an early -- renewal of those projects in his mind is considerably increased.

Paragraph 6. The advances which you made on the occasion referred to appeared to the Governor General to have been received by the court of Nagpur in a manner sufficiently favourable and the danger of the Berar Government from the violence and ambition of Sciendiah being rather increased then diminished since that period his Lordship concludes that you will experience no difficulty in -- renewing the negotiation of conducting it to the desired issue.

" 9. The Governor General is but imperfectly informed with regard to the nature of the differences existing - between Sciendiah and the Raja of Berar; but His Lordship generally understands that Sciendiah has long viewed with jealousy and dissatisfaction both the acquisitions made

of late years by the Bhonsla in the Malwa quarter and the favourable disposition which he has generally -- manifested towards the late Nana Furnavese.

Paragraph 10. It is sufficiently obvious that Court of Nagpur could not in any other manner so effectually guard against the danger described as by engaging the company and the Nizam to guarantee its territories - ~~ga~~ against Dawlat Rao Sciendiah. It would at the same be equally the interest of the company and the Nizam to enter into such a guarantee,

" 11. It will be particularly injurious to us whenever it shall tend to weaken any of the barriers at -- present placed between us, but it will be in an eminent degree dangerous to us should it ever involve the actual removal of any of those barriers and especially of that one which would lay open to a needy and unprincipled -- chief the rich and flourishing provinces of Bengal.

" 12 For these reasons the Governor General is -- decidedly of opinion that it continues to be highly -- expedient that a defensive league should be entered into by the company by the Nizam and by the Court of Nagpur against Sciendiah expressly or against their enemies -- generally.

" 13 As the security which the Raja of Berar would derive from the proposed guarantee he would not be unwilling to purchase it at the price of such a

compromise of his claims on the Court of Hyderabad as his court has long wished to effect through the interposition of the Poona Government and as without essentially effecting the rights or revenue of the Rajah would be calculated to establish and maintain harmony and good will between the two states. ..... also the Rajah would make no difficulty in consenting to such arrangements with the British Government for a permanent -- settlement of all boundary questions and for the improvement of the commercial intercourse between the two countries, as should appear likely to promote their mutual benefit and -- quiet.

Paragraph 14. There are other objects which it is the anxious desire of the Governor General to carry at the Court of -- Nagpur. The principal of these objects consists in acquisition by the company of the province of Cuttack for an ---- equivalent in money or otherwise. His Lordship recommends the subject to your constant attention and desires you to endeavour or to obtain whatever information may be practicable (consistently with the caution necessary in so delicate a case) relative to the probable sentiments and inclinations of the Court of Nagpur with regard to the cession or exchange attended to.

.....

" 15. In the event however of the Raja's being --

disposed to receive subsidiary force from the company His Lordship thinks it necessary to apprize you that he would readily accept as a security for the payment of the subsidy of the troops and even prefer to any other arrangement an assignment of such part of the province of Cuttack as should be adequate to the purpose and -- should place under the management of the company such a tract of territory as should establish the continuity of their dominions from Bengal to the Northern Circars.

The Governor General deems it necessary that two Regiments of Native Infantry with the usual proportion of Artillery is the force which His Lordship would wish to establish at Nagpur and that he will not consent to furnish to the Government of Berar a smaller Subsidiary Detachment than one Regiment of Native -- Infantry.

Paragraph 17. The establishment of a subsidiary force in Berar is a point of such importance in the present moment that His Lordship authorises you to agree to any reasonable conditions which the Rajah may annex to such an arrangement and to accommodate the assignment of -- funds for the payment of the troops to His Highness's convenience as far as may be practicable.

" 19 In conducting the present negotiation you are first to sound the disposition of the Court of -- Nagpur with respect to such a Treaty as the Resident at

Poona has been authorised to conclude with the Peshwah and whenever you should learn that such a treaty has been actually consented to by the Peshwah and acceded to by the Nizam you are formally to invite Raghoji -- Bhonsla to accede to the same on such terms with --- respect to the company as have been generally described in the preceding part of this letter and with respect to the Nizam on such conditions as may have been previously concerted between you and Capt.Kirkpatrick.

Paragraph 20. The proposed treaty with the Peshwah failing or not being likely to take place Raghoji Bhonsla is then to be invited to accede to the separate defensive ----- engagements which Capt.Kirkpatrick has been instructed to conclude with the Nizam.

The conditions on which the Court of Nagpur is to be admitted to a participation of the benefits of these engagements will be the same as in the case of the proposed Treaty with the Peshwah and as described in the last paragraph. .....
.....

Fort William.
10th April 1800

(Signed) W.Kirkpatrick.
Secretary to Government.

NAGPUR RESIDENCY RECORDS.
VOL.I. LETTER NO.43.

A.11.

To,

The Most Noble,
Marquis Wellesley K.T.
Governor General.

My Lord,

I have this moment received private intelligence which leads me to think that this court has now formed a correct estimate of the recent events at Poona than I had reason to believe when I had the honour to - address Your Lordship on the 17th instant. The Raja of Berar considers Morabah as likely to become a mere -- instrument of the will of Scindia by whose influence he has been placed in his present situation. The Raja also apprehends the inveterate enmity of Morabah against -- himself on account of his avowed attachment to the late Nana Furnavese; and he thinks the whole of Scindias late conduct is only calculated to impose upon Bajee Rao and to lull his suspicions whilst Scindia confines his person under the pretence of guarding it.

Being credibly informed that such is the Raja of Berar's opinion of recent transactions at Poona I may hope that no delay will arise from this cause when the -- conclusion of a treaty of Hyderabad furnishes the occasion for a formal tender of the proposed alliance to this Court.

Nagpure,
24th July 1800.

(Signed) H.Colebrooke.
Resident.

A.12.

To,

The Most Noble

Marquis Wellesley K.P.

Governor General.

My Lord,

Paragraph 7. It seems now evident that the Rajah will not accede to the Treaty recently concluded at Hyderabad and that his object in wishing to negotiate on a different -- basis in concert with the Peshwah is to avoid on his own part and on that of the Peshwah concessions by which the power of the marathas in general might be lessened. At the same -- time he possibly looks to his own exaltation as a mediator between the greatest power of India and even hopes to -- ingratiate himself in that capacity with both parties -- conceiving this to be really the present disposition of the Court of Nagpur. I apprehend that by making any further -- difficulty of reporting to Your Lordship the Raja's offer of interposition I should accelerate rather than retard his progress towards a close union with the Court of Poona. To avoid this consequence and for the purpose of reminding him that Your Lordship has evinced a zealously amicable -- disposition towards the Peshwah and that no differences -- exist between the British Government and the Court of Poona. I sent the message stated in the fourth paragraph of this address.

While the Raja's proposal is thus kept in --

suspense, there is room for the probable recurrence of circumstances to estrange him from a combination with - other maratha powers before this seemingly discordant -- union can be consolidated. Meanwhile an influence at this court is preserved which may be exerted to prevent the -- adoption of obnoxious measures such as the actual mission of the ministers to Poona, the Raja's proceeding to meet Bajee Rao and Scindia on the Godavery and especially his assembling troops on his southern frontier.

Paragraph 9. Unless impelled by motives of necessity the Raja of Berar cannot be long cordially united with the -- Court of Poona because he is ever secretly impatient of feudal subordination to the Peshwah - So lately as this morning in this message which the Raja desired should be delivered verbation to me by me moonshee he said whether I be considered as the kinsman, the servant or the slave of the Raja of Suttara it is on account of the relation in which I stand to Shahu Raja whatever that be that I am interested for the Peshwah writes to me that he commits - himself to my guidance as to that of a father. Now my objects are the same with those of the British Government namely that general tranquility be preserved while no -- injustice is committed. If then that the Peshwah should aggress my army will be at your disposal.

Considering the mutual jealousy that subsists

amongst all the maratha powers it is not even now -- possible that if Your Lordship should think it -- expedient to encourage the Raja's offer of interposition he may side with the British Government rather than with the Peshwah in the progress of negotiation. And that for the same reason which rendered it credible that the Raja's ministers had they gone to Poona would have taken part with the British Government in negotiations there. The reason here alluded to is the wish - which the Raja of Berar probably entertains of ingratiating himself with all parties and especially with the British Government that he may revert more safely to his ancient policy of maintaining relations of amity with all while he forms no permanent strict alliance with any power.

Nagpoor.
20th November 1800.

(Signed) H.Colebrooke.
Resident.

A.13.

To,

The Most Noble

Marquis Wellesley K.P.

Governor General.

My Lord,

Paragraph 3. To the information which is already before Your Lordship imperfect as it is I can yet add no further intelligence but the arrival of an agent from Poona with an answer so far satisfactory to the Raja as to have -- accelerated his sending the ministers thither. Your Lordship with remarks careless manner in which the measure has been notified and the Raja's seeming indifference as to the opinion that may be entertained of a step which he ~~had~~ has not yet explained.

" ~~12~~ 4. The Raja of Berar has in this instance evidently taken a resolution which is not to be shaken by argument perhaps not even by the strongest remonstrances I could take upon myself to make without Your Lordship's special ---- instructions. Nor would any useful purpose be attained by a strenuous opposition to this measure; since the Bhonsla could be at no loss for other channels of concerting with the Court of Poona. Arguments such as he may have in view.

" 6. Since the foregoing part of this address was - written the mutiny having been quelled Sridhar has received the answer to the Raja's message abovementioned. He observed

that an ~~argument~~ urgent requisition having been received from the Peshwah brought by the Agent recently arrived - from Poona the mission of himself and his colleague is now become unavoidable. He made professions of the Raja's unalterable friendship for the company and asserted his own reluctance to proceed to Poona could it by any means be avoided. He added that the Raja will this evening appoint an hour for an interview tomorrow.

Nagpoor.
26th January 1801.

(Signed) H.Colebrooke.
Resident.

NAGPUR RESIDENCY RECORDS.

VOL.I. LETTER NO.75.

A.14.

To,

The Most Noble

Marquis Wellesley K.T.

Governor General,

My Lord,

Paragraph 5. Raja Raghoji Bhonsla apprehensive of ---- Vinkajee's asserting independence and pursuing separate interests, detains him at his own court under the --- semblance of fraternal affection. But in fact enmity - subsists between the brothers. Raghoji's empty veneration for his mother enables her to employ her influence to maintain the appearance of concord but Vincojee bears with impatience detention which prevents his holding a dr separate court and freely and fully enjoying his -- territorial allottment. He remembers with resentment -- designs which his brother is suspected of having once - entertained against the safety of his person.

So long as it appeared probable that the Raja of Berar would conclude a Treaty of alliance with the -- company Vincajee looked to that alliance for the foundation of his own security. If the influence of the ---- British Government were established at this court he -- naturally judged that it would restraint on Raja Raghoji Bhonsla sufficient to prevent any gross injustice or act of violence. On these similar considerations he shewed

himself zealous to promote the measure.

Disappointed in his expectation he now -- reflects on the precariousness of his own safety -- dependent as it appears to be on the duration of his mother's life. He also contemplates the hopeless state in which he would leave his infant son should any -- accidents happen to himself. He has therefore turned his eyes towards the British Government as the only - quarter whence he can hope for protection.

Nagpoor.
21st March 1801.

(Signed) H.Colebrooke.
Resident.

A.15.

To,

The Most Noble

Marquis Wellesley,

Governor-General.

My Lord,

Paragraph 6. I have this moment while preparing the present despatch, received intelligence that an express arrived last night from Poona with a summons from the Peishwah to the Raja of Berar requiring his immediate attendance at Poonah and notifying to him that Dowlat Rao Sindiah, Ali Bahdur and other Maratha Chiefs have been also -- summoned. The express has been brought by two confiden--tial servants of the Peishwah, whether the Raja of Berar will comply is yet uncertain.

I have the honour to be with the greatest respect,

My Lord,

Yours Lordship etc.

Nagpoor,
30th April 1801.

(Signed) H.Colebrooke,
Resident.

A.16.

To,

The Most Noble

Marquis Wellesley,

Governor-General.

My Lord,

It seems indutiable that the purpose for which a convention of Maratha Chieftains has been summoned is to arrange a confederacy against the British Power;persons from whom I have been accum accustomed to receive intelli--gence in which I put trust because their confidential - situations give them access to accurate information now speak of the Peishwah's designs as completely manifested by the call of a Convention and the Raja of Berar's -- privity to them as no longer susceptible of concealment after the receipt of a summons to attend that Meeting. One of the persons here alluded to is in the confidential employ of Vincajee Bhoslah, the other --- attached to the same prince but derives further measure of information from the employments which he holds in the service of the Raja of Berar.

They acknowledge that the object of the --- Convention is to concert measures against the British - Government one affirming that the Peishwah has long -- harboured the same designs and dates it so far back as the fall of Tippu Sultan, he says the project is now -

matured and the troops lately levied at Poonah are -- intended for this very service. The other avers that - the scheme includes a plan inviting aid from the French and from Zemaun Shah both assert that its object is to - extort from the British Government the cession of a part of the conquests made in Mysore and to screen Daulat Rao Scindia from the effects of the resentment supposed to be excited solely by his entertaining French Officers in his service, they confirm what has been mentioned by other - persons also that the Maratha Courts hope to detach the Nizam from his alliance with the Company both hint that the Rajah of Berar listens cheerfully to the Peishwah's overtures. But in answer to the direct question suggested this hint, they employ only general terms, one saying -- that the Marhattas are all of one mind, the other lament--ing out into regrets at the infatuation of the Marhattah Chieftains to the question whether the Rajah of Berar will comply with the summons. The reply was not immediately - sent but he will probably meet the rest of the Marhatta Chieftains on the banks of the Godavery under pretence of religion at a fair which will be held on the last day of August next .....

.....

(Signed) H.Colebrooke,
Resident.

Nagpoor,
4th May 1801.

NAGPUR RESIDENCY RECORDS

VOL.I. LETTER NO.85.

A.17.

To,

The Honourable

Major-General Wellesley,

Governor-General.

Sir,

Para 7. The designation of the cessions under the ---- Treaty jointly to the British Government and its ---- Allies was extremely judicial and the temporary -- transfer of the whole of the ceded territory situated to the westward of the ..... to the authority of the ..... of the Dekkan under ..... tion which you proposed to His Highness is entirely - approved by the Governor General in Council for the reasons stated in the 4th paragraph of your despatch.

The motives which induced you to confine the - demand of the territorial cessions on the Eastern side of the Rajah of Berar's dominions to the Province of - Cuttack under a distinct provision for the confirmation of all treaties which may have been concluded with the tributaries or feudatories of the Rajah of Berar's -- Government claim the entire approbation of the ----- Governor-General in Council.

" 8. The object of establishing a barrier to the --

frontier of Cuttack was not to be placed in competi-
-tion with the inferior advantage of recurring the -
cession of the whole of the territory west of the -
River Wardha, not of sufficient importance to hazard
conclusion of the treaty on the terms to which the -
Rajah of Berar was disposed to accede, zh and you ---
judged very properly in taking into consideration the
probability of the actual conclusion of engagement -
between the British Government and the chieftains --
occupying the territory contiguous to the northenr and
western frontier of Cuttack by which that barrier would
be established under the provisions of the 10th Article
of the Treaty.

The records of the Government do not afford
materials sufficient to enable the Governor-General in
Council to specify the exact limits of the Province of
Cuttack proper nor has the Governor General received -
from the Commissioners for the affairs of Cuttack the
detail of their affairs negotiations with the tributary
Chieftains on the frontier of that Province. The ----
Commissioners have therefore been directed to communi-
-cate to you an accurate statement of the limits of the
province to transmit to you copies of the engagements -
which may have been concluded with any of those tribu-
-tary chieftains and to apprisemy apprise you of the

progress of any depending negotiations with Chieftains of that description.

It is not the wish of the Governor-General - in Council to take advantage of the provisions of that Article for the purpose of reducing the extent of the - Rajah of Berar's dominions beyond the degree necessary to maintain the obligation of our public faith with those Chieftains who have solicitated the protection of the - British Government; on the other hand it is ~~x~~ incumbent on the British Government to provide for the security of those Chieftains who have manifested a disposition to connect their interests with those of the Honorable - Company against the effects of the Rajah of Berar's -- resentment.

Para 11. In cases in which the progress of the negotia- -tion at the period of time when the Commissioners for - the affairs of Cuttack received official intelligence - of the conclusion of Peace with the Rajah of Berar, may ~~have~~ have extended to the acceptance of proposals on the part of any of those Chieftains for the transfer of the allegiance to the British Government without the actual conclusion of reciprocal engagements the Governor-General in Council is decidedly of opinion that the operation of the 10th Article of the Treaty should be admitted.

The Governor-General in Council accordingly - directs that in specifying the names of those Chieftains

who are to be admitted to the benefit of the provisions of the 10th Article of the Treaty you will be regulated by the application by the principles above stated to the communications which you will receive from the ----- Commissioners for the affairs of Cuttack with respect ~~of~~ to the state of the negotiations with the Tributary Chieftains on the frontier of that province.

Several Pergannahs situated within the Province of Midnapore were subjected to the authority of the Rajah of Berar ahd since the occupation of the Province of - Cuttack by the British Power engagements have been - concluded with the Zemindars of those pergannahs.

Para 14. As dependencies of Ballasore at which place the revenues of them were paid those Pergannahs might justly be considered to be ceded under the spirit of the -- stipulations of the 2nd Article of the treaty; but ---- although this construction of the 2nd Article of the -- treaty should be disputed those pergannahs will necessari- -ly be placed under the authority of the British Govern- -ment by the letter and spirit of the 10th Article.

The district of Morbunge ~~W~~ith its dependant -- Zemindaries was also subject to the authority of the - Foujdar of Ballasore to whom the revenue of that district was paid; proposals of submission to the British Authority

were made by the Zemindar of Morbunge at an early period of time and engagements have since been concluded with that Zemindar.

That district together with its dependencies and generally all districts either included within the Province of Cuttack or dependent on Balasore must also be considered to be ceded to the British Government under the preceding construction of the 2nd and 10th Articles of the Treaty.

Para 26. The Governor-General in Council entirely approves your intention to despatch the Honourable Mr.Elphinstone to the Rajah of Berar to act in the capacity of Resident of that Chieftain's Court until the arrival of Mr.Webb.

(Signed) Wellesley
G.H.Barlow
Geo.Aldny.

Fort William,
9th January 1804.

A.18.

To,

The Hon'ble

Mountstuart Elphinstone,

Acting Resident at Nagpore.

My Lord,

Para 5. The enclosed document will enable you/ to-- explain to His Highness the grounds of the Governor--General in Council's decision and it will be your duty to satisfy His Highness that the indispensible necessity of maintaining the obligations of our public faith has alone influenced His Excellency in Council's determination with regard to the Chieftains and territories which form the subject of discussion. In testimony of this -- fact as well as with a view to regard the interests of the Rajah of Berar in the utmost practicable degree you will state to the Raja that the British Government is disposed not to guarantee to His Highness the annual -- receipt of the full amount of Revenue or Tribute which he derived from the Chieftains and territories in question - but even to compensate by any practicable means for this unavoidable reduction of the extent of the dominions.

You will state to His Highness that the British Government has no interest in wishing to establish its -

authority over those Chieftains and that under the - arrangement ehich has now become necessary it is not the intention of the British Government to exercise any authority over them that the British Government would - with great satisfaction concur in the restoration of the territories in question to the ~~donim~~ dominion of the -- Rajah of Berar provided the Chieftains and Zemeendars who occupy them would consent to release the British - Government from the obligation of its guarantee by which its faith is pledged to protect those persons and the - districts in their possessions from the future authority and control of the Marhatta power, ~~by~~ but that any ---- arrangement by which those persons should ~~bargain~~ be -- again placed under the dominion of His Highness without their previous consent would constitute a violation of our public faith/.

Para 9. The following is the detail of the arrangement which His Excellency in Council deems it advisable to - adopt with respect to those persons formerly the subjects or tributaries of the State of Berar who appear by the - reports of the Commissioners ~~from~~ for the affairs of -- Cuttack and by Lieutenant Colonel Broughton to have become entitled to the permanent protection of the British Govern--ment.

1st That those persons be exempted from the exercise

of any authority whatever on the part of the Rajah of Berar or of the British Government.

2ndly That with the exception of those persons who by the terms of their engagements have been --- exempted from the payment of tribute to the British - Government, the remaining persons of the descriptions stated in the preceding part of this paragraph here--after pay to the British Government the amount of the revenue of Tribute which they formerly paid to the Government of Berar.

3rdly That the aggregate amount of the revenue or tribute which previously to the War the Rajah of Berar derived from the territories described in the preceding part of this paragraph be paid annually by the British Government to such person as the Rajah of Berar shall appoint to receive it either within the limits of the British possessions or by the British Resident at Nagpur.

4thly That in the event of a failure in the payment of their stipulated tribute on the part of those persons from whom tribute or revenue is -- demandable or in the event of any conduct on the part of any of the persons in question of a nature injurious to the interests of the Rajah of Berar or inconserted with the spirit and intent of this --

arrangement the British Government shall withdraw its protection from the person so acting .....

.....

Para 11. His Excellency in Council deems it proper that a supplementary article should be added to the Treaty of Deogaum specifying the names and territory of the persons who are the subject of the intended - arrangement and the obligations which that arrangement imposes on the Rajah of Berar and on the British Govern--ment. The draft of such a supplementary article is - enclosed in the despatch you will require the Rajah of Berar to execute an xxxix article in conformity thereto and you will transmit that article so executed for the purpose of being ratified by the Governor-General in Council.

" 12. I am further directed to desire that you will endeavour to ascertain what will probably be considered by the Rajah of Berar to be an adequate compensation for the loss of his power independently of revenue over that part of his former dominion which will be lost to him - by this arrangement. The plan proposed by the Governor--General in Council indemnifies the Rajah of Berar for the loss of revenue or Tribute but he may still expect indemnification for the loss of dominion, and the Governor

General in Council is sincerely disposed to give a liberal consideration to any such claim. You will report the -- information which you may obtain on this point together with your opinion upon the question for the notice of - His Excellency in Council.

Fort William.
4th March 1804.

(Signed) N.B.Edmonstone,
Secretary to Government.

A.19.

NOTES FOR MR.ELPHINSTONE

(enclosed in the letter 17th).

The Raja of Berar having formally renounced all claim whatever to the restoration of Sumbulpur etc. to his dominion and having admitted the justic of the -- principles which have regulated the conduct of the - British Government with regard to that question the -- Governor General in Council authorises Mr.Elphinstone to renew the discussion on the subject of compensation to the Rajah of Berar for the loss both of Revenue and of dominions by the ~~separattion~~ separation of Sumbulpur etc. from his territory. The only practicable compensa--tion is the grant of an annual sum of money together - with certain privileges, distinctions or immunities at the principal Hindoo places of Worship within the - British Dominions. The pecuniary compensation to be - annual - to be regulated in some degree by the amount of revenue which the Rajah of Berar usually derived from the provinces and Tributaries separated from his dominion by the operation of the Treaty of Deogaum, but to exceed that amount considerably. The pecuniary compensation may exceed the total amount of that revenue to the extent of one lakh of rupees.

Para 3. The places of Hindoo Worship to which it is

proposed to grant the exemption are Jaggernaut, Goya and Illahbad and to these may be added Muttra, if - duties are usually levied there. At Benares no duties upon pilgrims are levied - but any responsible privilege which the Raja may desire may be granted at that place.

para 9. The Raja of Berar should be distinctly apprized that any attempt on his part to disturb those provinces and tributaries will be followed by the immediate loss of the proposed compensation in all its branches --- including proposed privileges.

In such an event the annual payment will be suspended and the proposed privileges revoked.

Fort William
3rd November 1804.

(Signed) N.B.Edmonstone
Secretary to Government.

NAGPUR RESIDENCY RECORDS

VOL.III.LETTER No.17.

A.20.

To,

The Hon'ble

Mounstuart Elphinstone,

Resident at Nagpur.

My Lord,

Para 3. At an early period of our establishment in the province of Cuttack the Commanding Officer -- transmitted to the Rajas of Sumbulpur and Sonepare offers of the same advantageous terms for the transfer of their - allegiance to the British Government as those embraced by the Raja of Boad - namely a promise never to demand tribute from them further than five gold mohors annually by way of acknowledgment of their submission - This annual acknowledg--ment of submission (Five gold mohors) has been remitted to the Raja of Boad since his acceptance of the terms pro--posed to him in consequence of representations made by his Vakeel deputed for that purpose and which appeared to --- authorise that remission - The circumstance of Major --- Broughton's early arrival at Sumblepore and the engagements which he concluded with the dependencies of that Province and Patna appear ~~tax~~ to have been effected before our -- proposals had been accepted by the Rajah's of Sumbulpore and Sonepore and to have rendered the transmission of those proposals nugatory.

We cannot discover that the Rajahs of Sumblepore

Sonepore and Boad during the Marhatta Goverment had any tributary relation towards the authorities of the Raja of Berar stationed at Cuttack nor do any sums ~~appear~~ appear to have been received from them on account of revenue or Tribute by those authorities.

18th November 1804.

Commissioners for affairs
of the Cuttack Province.

NAGPUR RESIDENCY RECORDS

VOL.II.LETTER NO.19.

A.21.

To,

Colonel Haliburton,

Sir,

I have just had the honour to receive your letter of the 3rd instant - From the conduct of the Raja of Berar and the disposition of his -- troops at this ~~juncture~~ juncture I am to believe that he will make such satisfaction for his late infraction of the Treaty of Deogaum as will ~~be~~ -- preclude the necessity of a War but after his recent treachery no certain dependence can be placed on him.

I believe the following to be the distribu--tion of the Raja's force at present.

At Nagpur 3000 Infantry and 1500 Cavalry at the Turra Ghaut north of - - - - - - - from 4000 to - 5000 cavalry and 3000 infantry on Ghurry Mundlla -- there is I believe from four to five thousand men of all discriptions besides the above, there is no ---- considerable number of troops in any one place. I have not lately heard of any news of the Raja - people being on the frontier except at a place near Amner where there are some straggling horse. Scindia is reported to be -

near Saugor he certainly is some marches nŏrth of the Nerbudda. Meer Khan is said to be at some -- distance from Bilsa to the north of that place. From this statement you will be able ~~xox~~ to form an opinion what position it will be best for you to -- occupy. I should think there was no objection to - your advancing towards the Nurda but perhaps if you were to take up a position immediately on that river it might be difficult to prevent the Nizam's cavalry from foraging within the Bosla's frontier an occur--rence which it is very desirable to avoid. I expect soon to hear His Excellency the Governor-General's termination on the Raja's violation of the treaty and his subsequent submission.

It will probably be accompanied by some - instructions for your guidance. I do not imagine that junction can take place in the interim between the - Raja of Berar's troops and those of any other chief and I shall endeavour to prevent the Raja's assembling his own army without coming to an issue with the British.

Nagpoor,
28th January 1805.

(Signed) M.S.Elphinstone,
Resident.

NAGPUR RESIDENCY RECORDS

VOL.XXV,LETTER NO.62.

A.22.

To,

Richard Henkins,Esqr.,

Acting Resident at

Nagpur.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge your four despatches of the 21st and 22nd instant which have all reached me at the same moment.

The success of the Rajah's Troops against Meer Khan is so creditable to his arms and important to the common interest that I shall address a letter of ---- congratulations to His Highness.

In my despatch of the 23rd instant I observed that the letter of the Right Honourable the Governor General to Meer Chan required him not to cross the --- Nurbudda and in the event of his having crossed that - river to withdraw his troops - It now appears that Meer Chan has withdrawn his troops from the Rajah's Territories - What remains to be considered then is that althoggh he recrossed the Nurbudda much about the time when he ---- received his Lordship's letter it may be inferred that the reply which he has given to that Despatch is not of a very pacific tenor and further that notwithstanding he h retired from the Rajah's territory he must be regarded a still at war with Mish His Highness Government - Had M

Chan remained in the Rajah's territory and continued to menace Nagpoor the outline of a Joint plan of -- operations against him suggested by His Highness would have merited serious attention - but as matters now stand I conceive that I shall most accord with His - Highness's intentions by continuing my route to ---- Oomrawutty and there waiting His Lordship's further ~~intention~~ instructions - Unless in the interim Meer Chan should return to the Rajah's territory in force in which case I should advance to act immediately -- against the enemy - You will be pleased to acquaint the Rajah than that such are my ideas and intentions add--ing that I may be honoured with His Lordship's further instructions by the time the column now marching from Hyderabad under Lieutenant Colonel Couran may be - expected to join me at Omrawutty.

I am the more decided in adopting the ~~time~~ line of conduct just explained from reflecting that under the circumstances of Meer Chan's retreat without any --- adjustment with him, the modes of proceeding possible to be pursued by the British Government are apparently -- numerous and that affairs should accordingly be kept in a position to mark with convenience the course of policy which may be ultimately determined upon.

Camp at
Burragaum.
25th November 1809.

(Signed) B.Close,
Colonel.

A.23.

To,

F.Warden,Esqr.,

Chief Secretary to the Government

Bombay.

Sir,

I am concerned to acquaint you for the informa-tion of the Right Honourable the Governor General in Council that His Highness Rajah Raghojee Bhoosla died yesterday ~~xhx~~ evening. He is succeeded by his son Balla Sahib now Rajah Pursojee Bhoosla.

(Signed) R.Jenkins,
Nagpoor,
23rd March 1816. Resident.

NAGPUR RESIDENCY RECORDS
VOL.XXVIII LETTER NO.392.

A.24

To,

Hon'ble Edward Gardiner

Resident in Nypaul.

Sir,

I have the honour to acquaint you that Rajah -- Pursojee Bhoosla died this morning. He is succeeded by his cousin Appa Sahib now Rajah Moodhojee Bhoosla.

(Signed) R.Jenkins,
Nagpur
1st February 1817. Resident.

NAGPUR RESIDENCY RECORDS
VOL.XXVIII LETTER NO.587.

A.25.

CAMP SUNDULPORE. 6th March 1819.

Heth Lall says he went yesterday into the Fort --- and was again admitted on the pretext of his connection with Sew Prasad - He saw Bhuwanee Sing and Takpoor Sing and Loorjun Sing Zemadars of Bundelahs(his friends) who told him that Jeswunt Raw Laur had changed his mind about the ex Rajah and desired him to remain where he was, but the latter was greatly alarmed and said he had now no -- resting place upon earth and would throw himself upon - General Malcolm's clemency who might do what he chose - with him - the Killedar dissuaded him however from this and Appa Sahèb has been removed from his Apartment near the Kheerkee or Sally Port into the body of the Upper -- Fort.

Heth Lall also states that the guards are on the alert more than they were and on the watch for persons. ..... He says that several parties have been sent in the direction of the different advanced parts and that he ~~hearrd~~ heard them talking to each other about making a -- night attack on some of the parties.

True Copy.

Brigadier General J.Doveton
Commanding Huderabad Subsidiary
force.

NAGPUR RESIDENCY RECORDS
VOL.XXXIX LETTER NO.60.

APPENDIX B.

B.1

To Madajee Boosila from the Governor General.

Sir,

Your welcome letter informing me of the victory obtained by your bravery and good conduct and of the establishment of your authority over the country and dependencies of the Suba of Berar etc. expressing your wish to maintain the intercourse of friendship which formerly subsisted between the deceased Rajah ----- Jannoojee Boosila and the Chiefs of this Government I have received and rejoiced beyond measure at the contents.

[illegible],

[illegible].

IMPERIAL RECORDS, FOREIGN DEPARTMENT, SECRET CONSULTATION

17th April 1775, Consultation No.18.

57.

B.1

To Madajee Boosila from the Governor General.

Sir,

Your welcome letter informing me of the victory obtained by your bravery and good conduct and of the establishment of your authority over the country and dependencies of the Suba of Berar etc. expressing your wish to maintain the intercourse of friendship which - formerly subsisted between the deceased Rajah ----- Jannoojee Boosila and the Chiefs of this Government I have received and rejoiced beyond measure at the - contents.

~~Nagpoor,~~

~~[illegible]~~.

IMPERIAL RECORDS, FOREIGN DEPARTMENT, SECRET CONSULTATION

17th April 1775, Consultation No.18.

B.2

To The Resident at Nagpore.

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor General in - Council to acquaint you that at the desire of the Governor General in Council it is intended to send a detachment consisting of about 4 to 5000 native - infantry with some artillery from the Vizier's -- Territories to join the army of Fort St.George.

It is proposed with a view to expedite and to under the march as little fatiguing as possible to - the troops that the detachment shall take a direct - route from Calpee through Bundelcund Berar and -- Hyderabad.

The Governor General in Council desires that you will communicate the wish of the Right Hon'ble the Governor General to march the troops by the above- -mentioned route, to Ragojee Bhoosla.

You will at the same time express to him the - Honourable President's conviction that from the -- intimate connection which subsists between the two States he will readily acquiesce in the Governor- General's wish and that he will depute a respectable

person to attend the Commanding Officer of the---- detachment through the limits of his territory --- and assist in providing supplies for the troops for which payment will be regularly made.

You will also give to Ragojee Bhoosla the most positive assurances that the greatest care will be taken that the inhabitants of the country experience through which the troops may pass shall not experience any molestation.

The Chief Secretary,
to the Government.

Fort Williams.

IMPERIAL RECORDS.FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.SECRET CONSULTATION

8th February 1799. Consultation No.70.

B.3.

To The Right Hon'ble Earl of Mornington
Governor-General.

My Lord,

I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that I yesterday arrived at Nagpur and today paid the Raja my first visit as he had appointed by a message received -- several days since. I had the honour to deliver your -- Lordship's letter which was received and read, with much respect and the Raja expressed his acknowledgments in a suitable manner. As the subsequent conversation(this being a first visit) was necessarily confined to general topics nothing further passed of sufficient moment to be reported to your Lordship, but I cannot omit mentioning that the utmost attention has been given to my accommodation --- throughout the Raja's own territories and that in my -- reception distinguished politeness has been shewn by him.

Nagpuor,
19th March 1799.

Signed H.Colebrooke.
Resident.

IMPERIAL RECORDS,FOREIGN DEPARTMENT,SECRET CONSULTATION

15th April 1799,CONSULTATION NO.18.

To the Earl of Mornington.

My Lord,

para 2. Since my last address dated 26th ultimo nothing further has passed relative to the negotiations opened in the manner, I had the honour to report to your -- Lordship. During the last ten days the Raja has observed a very austere fast and been continually engaged in -- devotion on account of the Noratr anniversary and has therefore been indisposed to give attention to business however important. This may be the reason of his not having yet proposed another private Conference and I have refrain--ed from asking one not thinking it prudent to show too - much eagerness more especially as I have been credibly - informed that the Raja expects answers to letters he had written to the Courts of Poona and Hyderabad consulting them on the part he should act in the present posture - of affairs.

I have employed the interval ~~imm~~ in the further prosecution of inquiries on the several points which your Lordship has commanded me to ascertain and report. Though not yet prepared to lay before you full information on - those subjects I beg leave to submit the result of my -- inquiries so far as they have been yet successful.

Raghojee Bhoonsla though not averse from pleasure

and dissipation, is attentive to business. He does not entrust any of his Ministers with the chief direction of affairs but views them with his own hand consulting however with his three principal Officers on all matters whether trivial or important. He is chiefly but not -- exclusively swayed by the advice of Cooshaba Chittinuvees; the Moonshee Shridhur Pundit is also listened to and acts ~~xx~~ in concert with Cooshaba; but the Bukhshee -- Bhowani Pundit has little influence being rather feared than liked by the Raja and being supported only by his interest with the Raja's mother.

Though Raghojee's Government be strict and in - some instances severe his temper is mild and manner -- popular. His abilities are more solid than brilliant and he appears to be possessed of great prudence but not - without some ambition. It is understood to be his wish to acquire greatest weight in the Maratha Empire than he now enjoys, but he has not that active turn which would lead him to seek with perseverance by deep intrigues hazardous measures. He is I believe sincerely attached to the ---- English Government and disposed to adopt such a line of conduct and such measures as may be recommended to him - by the Nizam whether in regard to the affairs of Poona or to those in which the British interests are ~~intimated~~ intimately concerned. His alliance is I think attainable and may be rendered useful. He has attended more than his

predecessors to his Military establishment and --- especially to the forming of a body of infantry -- consisting of two brigades of sepoys armed and ---- disciplined on the European model and attended by a train of artillery cast in his own foundries. Among the Officers there are many Europeans (mostly English men of low ~~irish~~ origin) who command corps of four or five hundred men each. One of these brigades is now - employed in completing the reduction of Gurrah Mundla the other in chastising a refractory chief on the -- frontier of Berar proper. His cavalry consists of about 20000 Maratha horse with 4000 Pathans and 1000 Arabs. The Rajah's whole establishment of horse and foot is stated at more than 50000 men: he could ---- probably bring 30000 into the field.

His resources consist in the treasure which was accumulated by himself and his predecessors and in the revenue he draws from his dominions. The first he - occasionally uses when his current resources are --- deficient for his revenue is scarcely equal to his - present expenditure.

A great part of his extensive dominions ~~consist~~ consists in a mountainous tract of country almost --- desolate and unproductive. The Nizam participates in the revenue of Berar ~~proper~~ proper, and the descendant of -

the ancient Rajas has a fourth part of the revenue of Gondwana. Half of Chhutteesgarh is the appanage - of Raghojee's brother and other domains are allotted to his own son and to his female relatives. Adverting to these and other circumstances I think his revenue which is reported to amount to two and half crores of rupees does not really much exceed the half of that - sum. It is however sufficient to maintain a ---- respectable military force which may render the --- Rajah's alliance desirable and his services useful - against any present or future enemies of the British Government.

Nagpur. (Signed) H.Colebrooke,
Resident.

IMPERIAL RECORDS.FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.SECRET CONSULTATION

10th Mat 1799. CONSULTATION NO.11.

B.5.

To The Governor-General.

The Most Noble Marquis Wellesley.

My Lord,

.....

.....

Para 3. In addition to his former intimations of the nature of these designs he then hinted that the --- dissolution of the alliance between the Nizam and the Company is an object which the Marathas have much at heart and to effect that every artifice will be used. He repeated his formed information (for it was from him the intelligence was received) relative to the -- arrival of a secret agent from Hyderabad. He did not furnish however any light which could enable me to - ascertain the truth of the intelligence but he added as Vincajee's as well as his own opinion that the --- mission if real is a stratagem of the Court of ------ Hyderabad. I must however remark that more probably the intelligence itself is wholly erroneous.

Nagpur.
8th May 1801.

(Signed) H.Colebrooke,
Resident.

(The Resident above reports what Vincajee's -- confidential Moonshee reported to his Moonshee at an interview they had between themselves).

B.6

the Most Noble
To/Marquis Wellesley,
Governor-General.

My Lord,

Para 4. The Vakeel deputed to Oujein by Raghojee Bhonsla assures Sindia that his master will take the field in person after the Dussera and that in the -- meantime a force shall be ordered to march immediately to the assistance of the Peishwa - It is said that -- Bajee Rao has supplied the army of Sudda Sheo with - money and Military stores - also that there is a great desertion amongst the troops of Jusuant Rao Holkar but I am not inclined to give implicit credit to these - reports which are transmitted by people in the service of the Mahraja, ...

Futtyghur,
11th November 1802.

(Signed(J.Collins,
Resident with Sindia.

IMPERIAL RECORDS.FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.SECRET CONSULTATION

22nd February 1803.CONSULTATION NO.12.

The Most Noble
To/Marquis Wellesley.

Governor-General.

My Lord,

Para 2. .....

.....

Jadoon Row advised this Durbar in a late -- despatch that he is making great efforts in order to induce the Berar Rajah to send a body of cavalry to - reinforce the army of the Mahraja. Jadoon Row also writes that Raggojee Bhoonslah is of opinion Sindia should repair to the Godavery taking with him Khundeh Rao and the daughter of Jeswunt Rao Holkar for the --- purpose surrending surrendering them to the latter --- Chieftain.

The Mahraja has expressed an intention of - commencing his march towards the Gunga Godavery in the course of a few days and it is said that he has written to Holkar proposing a meeting on the banks of that river.

Camp near Serowlah,
4th April 1803.

(Signed) J.Collins,
Camp near Serowlah

To the Most Noble
Marquis Wellesley,
Governor-General.

My Lord,

Since I had the honour to address your Excellency on the 4th instant Jadoon Rao has apprized this Durbar - that the tents of the Rajah of Berar were actually erected beyond the walls of the Nagpore City. This Minister also assures the Mahraja that Raghoji Bhonslah has directed his Sardars to assemble all his forces at Amrauty without delay and that the Bhoonslah promises to join his army as soon as it shall be assembled. Jadoon Rao was to leave Nagpore on the 5th of this month in order to return hither.

I am informed Raghojee Bhoonslah has written to - the Peishwa that he (the Bhoonslah) Holkar and all the -- other Maratha Sardars desirous to manifest their unqualifi--ed submission to him and to support his claim to the --- Government of Poona where they supposed he would shortly arrive. But that it was unadvisable under any circumstances to bring with him an European force as such a measure would displease the chiefs of the Deccan who were altogether -- averse to it, Sindiah has I understand addressed His ---- Highness the Peishwa to the same effect.

I learn that Amrut Rao has lately written to --

D.R.Sindia to the following import.

That the English gentlemen having concluded a treaty with Baji Rao were advancing towards Poona which place Holkar had left undefended. Whatever is requisite to be done do now for to delay it until ~~tommor~~ tomorrow will only be productive of regret.

Camp near Serowlah, (Signed) J.Collins.
6th April 1803.

IMPERIAL RECORDS, FOREIGN DEPARTMENT,SECRET CONSULTATION

9th May 1803, CONSULTATION NO.294.

B.9.

To,

The Most Noble

Marquis Wellesley,

Governor General.

My Lord,

Raghojee Bhonslah is arrived at Malkapur.Tomorrow morning Daulat Rao Scindiah and the Bhonslah will meet - midway between their respective camps, each attended by a party of two hundred horsemen - But I understand that no - business will be transacted at this meeting nor until an interchange of ceremonial visits has taken place between - those chieftains.

Yesterday Jadoo Rao Bhow joined the Mahrajah with whom he had a long Conference last night at which no other person whatever was admitted. Having been informed that - Balajee Koonjer had seen and conversed with Jadoon Rao -- I sent my Moonshee to the tent of the former this morning in order to discover the sentiments of Scindiah's confidential Minister on the present state of affairs.

Ballaji seems to be of opinion that Jadoon Rao -- Bhow is greatly disgusted at the instability lately evinced by the Ministers of Scindiah and thinks that Jadoon Rao will in consequence relinquish his situation shortly after the - interview between Dowlut Rao and Raghojee Bhonslah. The

Poona Vakeel also told my Moonshee that this Court was dissatisfied with the general tenor of the Treaty of Bassein and moreover said that it never was the --- intention of His Highness the Paishwa to make Scindiah acquanited with the particulars of the engagements which he had entered into with the British Government.

My Moonshee asked Balajee Koonjer whether His Highness the Paishwa had ever written to the Maharaja to acquaint that he would advance to Poona. His Vakeel -- replied that to the best of his knowledge and belief ~~Exjmexkas~~ had not written any letter to that effect to Daulat Rao - Scindiah and on my Moonshee's repeating this question -- -Ballajee returned the same answer adding that the ---- prohibition appeared unnecessary at present as the Mahraje could not advance to that Capital until the expiration - of the ensuing rains on account of the great scarcity of forage all the way from hence to Poona.

Para 5. I. learn from several quarters that the force of the Berar Rajah consists of ten Battalions of infantry - and twenty thousand cavalry. My present information ---- regarding the amount and description of his artillery is too vague to authorize my hazarding my statement thereof to your Excellency.

Khundeh Rao Holkar has been delivered over to

Raghoji Bhonslah and the City of Indore to Jaswant Rao's Aumil.

Camp Near Chuckly, (Signed) J.Collins.
3rd June 1803.

IMPERIAL RECORDS,FOREIGN DEPARTMENT,SECRET CONSULTATION

21st July 1803,CONSULTATION NOS.1-4.

B.10.

To,

N.B.Edmonstone

Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir,

I have this instant received your letter of the 13th ultimp, covering copies in English and Persian -- of an address of the same date from His Excellency the most noble the Governor-General to the Berar Rajah.

It is my intention to send my Moonshee Mirza - Bauker Khan tomorrow morning with a complimentary message to Raghoji Bhonslah. At the same time Mirza Bauker will - endeavour to learn whether this Chief has received any - letter of a late date from his Excellency and should it appear that His Lordship's address of the 13th ultimo has not yet reached the Berar Rajah, I shall in this event -- offer to submit to his perusal the copy which you - have forwarded to me and also a transcript of the Treaty of Bassein.

This line of conduct on my part is solely induced by a conviction that the contents of His Excellency's - letter to Raghojee Bhoonslah must be productive of the most happy effects and that therefore no time should be lost in communicating the same to that chieftain. Indeed

it appears to me of the utmost importance that the Berar Raja should be apprized of the moderation and justice of the principles and views of the British - Government previously to his entering upon business - with Daulat Rao Sindia, and I doubt not Sir you will agree with me in opinion that those principles and - views could not possibly be placed in a stronger -- light nor mmrn be more satisfactorily explained than they are in the letter which His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General has addressed to Raghoji Bhonslah on the subject of the Treaty lately concluded at Bassein between His Highness the Paishwa and the - British Government.

Camp Near Chikly (Signed) J.Collins.
4th June 1803.

IMPERIAL RECORDS.FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.SECRET CONSULTATION

21st July 1803.CONSULTATION NO.1-4.LETTER NO.2

B.11

To,

The Most Noble,

Marquis Wellesley,

Governor-General.

My Lord,

On the 5th instant Moonshee Mirza Bauker Khan waited on Raghoji Bhonslah with a note from me in which after explaining the nature of my appointment at the - Court of Daulat Rao Sindia I told the Rajah that as - well as in consideration of the amicable connection which had so long subsisted between his Sarcar and the British - Government, as on account of the sincere friendship that I well knew your Excellency entertained for his person - I considered it as a proper mark of respect on my part to send a confidential servant to enquire after his health and to congratulate him on his arrival at Mulkapur.

Raghoji Bonslah behave with great kindness -- towards Mirza Bauker and appeared to be much gratified by the compliment I had paid him - The Rajah said that among the Maratha Chiefs he was the oldest friend of the English and added it was his sincere wish that alteration whatever should take place in the relations of amity which had - subsisted so many years between the two Sarcars - Mirza Bauker Bauker observed in reply with Your Excellency's sentiments

on this subject were exactly similar to those which the Rajah has now delivered, and then asked Raghoji ~~Bons~~ Bhonslah whether he had received any letter of a recent date from your Lordship - The Rajah said - that one had reached him the preceding night together with a copy of the Treaty of Bassein- That as yet the contents of your Lordships letter had not been fully - explained neither had the Treaty been translated into the Maratha language; but that in a day or two at --- furthest he should be apprized of all particulars and would take an early occasion of replying to your Ex- -cellency's address - The Rajah than requested Mirza Bauker would remain in his Camp until the next day when he should receive an answer to the note which he had delivered from me.

While my Moonshee continued in the Camp of the Berar Rajah he formed an acquaintance with Sereedhur Punth Bappo who is I understand the servant in whom - Raghojee chiefly confides -This minister assured Mirza Bauker that until the receipt of your Lordship's last - letter his master knew not that a treay had actually been concluded between His Highness the Paishwa and the British Government. Jadoon Rao Bhow ~~have simply~~ having simply stated to the Berar Rajah and his ministers that a treaty was now negotiating between His Highness and

and the English.

Although the whole of Your Excellency's -- letter had not been explained to Raghojee yet Mirza Bauker says it was apparent from his conversation that ~~in~~ he knew a great part of its contents and upon the - report which my Moonshee made on his return from this visit I have every reason to hope that Your Lordship's representations to this chieftain will be productive of the happiest effects.

.....

.....

Camp Near Chickly, (Signed) J.Collins.
7th June 1803.

IMPERIAL RECORDS,FOREIGN DEPARTMENT,SECRET CONSULTATION

21st July 1803.CONSULTATION NO.1-4.No.3.

B.12.

To,

The Right Hon'ble

Marquis Wellesley,

Governor-General.

My Lord,

On the evening of the 8th instant Raghoji Bhonslah paid a visit to Daulat Rao Sindia when - these chiefs conferred together in private for --- several hours - On the following day I directed Gunput Rao to intimate to the Mahraja that as he had now had an interview with the Berar Rajah it was absolutely incumbent on him to give me an immediate and explicit answer to the question which I had stated on the 28th ultimo at his Durbar.

My agent Gunput Rao could not obtain an --- audience of Daulat Rao Scindiah until the 10th instant on account of the inclemency of the weather but in the morning of that day he delivered my message to the - Mahraja and the enclosure No.1 contains a copy and - translate of the reply that he received on this occa--sion - Yesterday Jadoon Rao Bhow had a long and secret Conference with Daulat Rao Sindia after which Gunput - Rao waited on that minister and urged him to declare whether this Court intended peace or war with the ---

English but could obtain no satisfactory answer.

As it appeared to me that the evasive conduct of this Durbar was practised wholly with a view to gain time and having been informed that Jaswant Rao Holkar was actually on his march to join the Mahraja I conceiv--ed that Your Excellency would deem me inexcusable were I to defer bringing the question of peace or war to an - immediate issue. ##################

Para 6. I am concerned to acquaint Your Excellency - that all communication between this Camp and that of - the Berar Raja has been rendered impracticable ever - since the night of the 8th instant by reason of the - overflowing of the Soom Nuddee which divides the two encampments - Mirza Bauker has in consequence failed in several attempts which he made by my directions for the purpose of waiting on Raghojee Bhonslah in order to -- ascertain what effect the perusal of Your Lordship's letter of the 13th ultimo had produced on the mind of that Chieftain - A circumstance of which I was very - desirous of being informed in the present critical -- situation of affairs.

Camp near Chikly, (Signed) J.Collins.
12th June 1803.

Translate of Daulat Rao Sindia's reply to the Memorial of Col.John Collins underdate the 20th June 1803.

Your memorial delivered through Gunpeb Roy is received and its contents understood. It was mentioned ~~thxt~~ to you at a former private interview between us that whenever a meeting should take place between Rajah ---- Raghojee Bhonslah and me and that I should have obtained his advice, such an answer should be returned to your - questions as should appear to be proper. Rajah Raghojee and I have accordingly met and have two or three times confirred together in private of which the result is that you should on Tuesday visit Rajah Raghojee Bhonslah. This you will have learned from your Moonshee who waited on the Rajah. It will therefore be right for you to visit that Chief. Whenever afterwards the Rajah and I shall have met and conducted together you shall then be sent for and the answer communicated to you.

Chickly,29th

B.14.

To,

The Most Noble,

Marquis Wellesley,

Governor-General.

My Lord,

Yesterday morning I waited on Rajah Raghojee Bhonslah according to his appointment and was received with much politeness. .....

Although the Berar Rajah had made it a stipulation that I should not enter upon business with him at this - visit yet to my surprise he asked me whether I had perused Your Excellency's letter to his address of the 22nd ultimo and on my replying in the affirmative the Rajah observed that it appeared to him your Lordship had misunderstood the purport of what he had written to Azim-Ul-Omra -- conceiving that this remark afforded me a fair opportunity of drawing from Raghojee Bhonslah a disclosure of his intentions I said that Your Excellency who had --- confidently relied on his friendly disposition towards the British Government was both surprised and disappointed to learn from his letter to Azim ul Omra that it was his the Bhonslah's design to proceed to meet Daulat Rao Sindia - the express purpose of forming a confederacy with that - Chieftain and Jaswant Rao Holkar directed to the subver- -sion of the arrangements concluded between His Highness

the Peishwa and the British Government for the restora-
-tion of His Highness to the Musnud of Poona - I then -
observed that if what the Rajah had written on this --
subject to ~~Nizam~~ Azim ul Omra had been misunderstood the -
mistake might be easily ratified by his (Bhonsleh's --
assuring your Lordship that he had no intention to oppose
the completion of the engagements contracted at Bassein -
between the British Government and His Highness the --
Peishwa)- I added that when doubts arose between ~~friends~~
friends on matters of importance they ought in prudence
to be speedily explained and removed and therefore I -
trusted that the Rajah would give Your Excellency this
satisfactory assurance without delay - I concluded my
discourse by ~~m~~ remarking on the acknowledged wisdom of
his character and inferring from it that the present -
apparent differences would soon be happily adjusted.

Rajah Raghojee seemed pleased with the ~~compliment~~
compliment I had paid him but told me smilingly that he -
could not then converse on business, however that I might
depend on having an answer at the expiration of six days
conformably to my own request I replied that I had no -
other intention in this visit than merely to pay my ---
respects to him and that my having spoken at all on ---
business must be ascribed to the question which he the -
Rajah had referred to me - This answer gave satisfaction
as well as Raghojee as to his confidential minister ---
Shreedhur Pundit.

Before I took my leave of the Berer~~s~~ Rajah he -- apprized me that he should move six coss from Mulkapur on the 27th instant on account of the great scarcity of forage in the vicinity of his present encampment. He further observed that the ground which he had now ~~xkxxxk~~ selected would be convenient both for Sindia and for me Consequently that ~~our~~ tents need not be far distant from each other - Daulat Rao Sindia has actually moved three coss nearer to Mulkapur and I shall immediately follow him - I cannot -- however but entertain some apprehension that these movements are preparatory to more procrastinations on the part of those Chieftains with respect to their promised determination.

Chickly, (Signed) J.Collins.
26th June 1803.

IMPERIAL RECORDS,FOREIGN DEPARTMENT,SECRET CONSULTATION

21st July 1803. CONSULTATION NO.19.

B.15.

To,

The Most Noble

Marquis Wellesley,

Governor-General.

My Lord,

.....

.....

Para 4. I then remarked that the Mahraje having -- promised to inform whether there should be peace or war after he had consulted with the Berar Rajah I was now come to learn his final determination as well on - this question as on that relating to his intentions - with respect to the engagements concluded at Bassein - I further observed that the English and Mahratta armies were now prepared for action and nearly approached each other consequently that all evasions must be laid aside, else hostilities might immediately ensue.This being -- spoken in a very serious and determined manner induced Jadoon Rao to declare that the Mahraja was desirous of preserving and maintaining the relations of friendship which had so long subsisted between his Sarcar and the British Government adding that this State would never be the aggressor in any war with the English and concluding with a request that I would communicate the foregoing assurances to Your Excellency and to the Hon'ble

Major General Wellesley. I said that the Mahraje --- was the person who first introduced the question of - peace or war and therefore that I ~~had~~ should not repeat any assurance but such as I received from his own --- ~~mouth~~ mouth - Sindia then made a declaration exactly similar to that which Jadoon Rao Bhow had given and --- desired me to write the same to Your Excellency to which I readily assented - I then brought forward the second question namely whether this Court intended to oppose the arrengements lately concluded between His Highness the Peishwa and the British Government but although I persisted declaring that until this question were fairly answered your Lordship would place little reliance in - the amicable professions of the Mahraja. Yet Jadoon Rao affirmed that the reply I required could only be given in the presence of the Berar Rajah but that it should not be delayed more than four or five days - I told -- Jadoon Rao that I have received so many promises of a similar nature none of which had ever been fulfilled -- that I had no longer any faith in them and I desired -- Sindia and his ministers to recollect that I was by no means responsible for the consequences of their present evasions which might for anything I knew be the cause of immediate hostilities since these evasions could only be practised with a view to afford time for the junction of the forces of some other Sardar - Jadoon Rao solemnly -

disavowed any such intention so did his brother Unna Bhasker and both earnestly pressed me to xf stay a - few days longer - I complied at length with their -- instances but at the same time observed that I must not be blamed should the Britush troops commence -- hostilities in consequence of the delay of this Court in giving the promised explanation and I assured them that the Hon'ble Major General Wellesley was fully - apprized of all my late Conferences and transactions with this Durbar - This seemed to alarm Jadoon Rao - who remarked that the General now occupied a position with his army in the territory of Daulat Rao Sindia somewhere between Jaumgong and Ahmednagur I replied that the Mahraje was advanced with his troops towards the frontier of our ally the Nabob Nizam apparently with hostile designs and that the Hon'ble General - Wellesley had chosen such a situation for the British army as in his judgment appeared the most advantageous for Military operations in the event of War. Jadoon Rao then said after the Mahraja had held another Conference with Raghojee Bhonslah which he expected would take - place in two or three days that these chiefs would - propose to me the return of the English and Maratha armies to their respective countries.

Camp near Selore. (Signed) J.Collins.
2nd July 1803.

IMPERIAL RECORDS, FOREIGN DEPARTMENT, SECRET CONSULTATION
11th August 1803, CONSULTATION NO. 21-24.

E.16.

To,

The Right Hon'ble

Marquis Wellesley,

Governor-General.

My Lord,

In the afternoon of the 4th instant I had - an interview with Daulat Rao Sindia and with Raghojee Bhonslah at the latter's tent - I was attended on this occasion by Captain Paris Bradshaw, Moonshee Mirza -- Bauker Khan and Gunput Rao - Shreedhur Punth, Kishen Rao, the eldest son, and brother of the Berar Rajah were present at this Conference - also Jadoon Rao Bhow, -- Unna Bhasker, Eithal Punth and Ambajee Inghia on the -- part of Sindia.

Para 4. (The Resident expounded the reasons of his - Government to enter into the Treaty of Bassein. He asked their opinion on it and what actions they wanted to take To this Shreedhur in a long harangue replied that the - Peishwa had entered without consulting the Chief Sardars). I replied that His Highness the Peishwa had repeatedly - written both to the Mahraja and to the Berar Rajah to - repair to Poona but that these requisitions of His --- Highness had not been complied with - That in consequence

the Peishwa was left without any means of defence against his enemies except that which he derived from the English to whom His Highness was solely -- indebted for the preservation of his life honor and dignity - I further observed that his (the minister's) reference to old usages was inconclusive in as much as no one instance has been advanced tending to prove - that the Exxi Peishwa had not undoubted right to -- enter into new engagements with the English independ--ently of the consent of any of the feudatory Maratha chiefs and that in fact the only point for considera--tion was whether Raghojee Bhonsdah and Daulat Rao -- Sindia designed to oppose the completion of a treaty actually concluded between the Peishwa and the British Government.

Para 5. (Shreedhur then remarked that they were not - sure of the treaty being entered into because they -- could not rely on duplicates furnished by the ---- Resident - they desired sending 2 Vakils to the Peishwa to make sure). In the meantime they assured me that -- their master had no design whatever to oppose my --- engagements which the British might have contracted with Hixh His Highness the Peishwa and they also promis--ed that their armies should not advance towards Poona nor ascend the Adjuntee Ghaur - after giving these -- assurances they requested I would endeavour to prevent

the nearer approach of the British Troops under the command of Col.Stephenson - I replied that to evince the sincerity of their present professions it was -- indispensably requisite that Daulat Rao Sindia should recross the Nurbudda and the Bhonslah repair to Nagpoor. That while they continued in this quarter with their armies it was impossible for Your Excellency to rely on their friendly promises .... and did not fail to state that the continuance of the Mahratta armies in this quarter would most probably be productive of serious evils yet could obtain no satisfactory assurances from Jadoon Rao of Shreedhur Punth ..... and --- hence I am inclined to infer that their friendly ---- professions are insincere.

Daulat Rao Sindia and Raghoji both promised to send me letters on the following day for Your ---- Excellency, containing the strongest assurances of -- their determination to preserve and maintain the relations of friendship which have so long subsisted - between their States and the British Government.

Camp near Jamnher, (Signed) J.Collins.
6th July 1803.

B.17.

To The Right Hon'ble
Marquis Wellesley,
Governor_General.

My Lord,

Para 2. Ethoji Inglia and Siam Rao agents of -- Jaswant Rao Holkar at this Court took charge of the boy Khundeh Rao yesterday afternoon and immediate--ly proceeded with him towards the Camp of Holkar - accompanied by a Carcoon named Rajaram in the employ of Berar Rajah.

" 4. Eight Battalions of sepoys in the service of Ambaji Inglia marched from the Deccan towards -- Hindoostan some days ago. This force which is commanded by a Mr.James Shupphard Sheppard will it is supposed be stationed between Jansi and Calpy.

Camp Julgong (Signed) J.Collins.
10th July 1803.

IMPERIAL RECORDS,FOREIGN DEPARTMENT,SECRET CONSULTATION
11th August 1803. CONSULTATION NO.30.

B.18.

To The Right Hon'ble
Marquis Wellesley,
The Governor General.

My Lord,

Para 2. I am of opinion that Bhonslah and Sindia will endeavour to penetrate the Nizam's country -- either by the Badouly Pass or through the Cassrbary Ghaut but if it be true as I this moment heard that Holkar is on his march to ~~joinin~~ join those chieftains it is probable that they may retain their present -- position some days longer .....

Daulat Rao Sindia has ordered the whole of his infantry to repair to Burhanpur together with all his guns and heavy baggage hence it would appear that it is his intention to carry on a depredatory war.

Camp Aurangabad, (Signed) J.Collins.
13th August 1803.

IMPERIAL RECORDS,FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.SECRET CONSULTATION

8th September 1803.CONSULTATION NO.65.

B.19.

To The Right Hon'ble
Marquis Wellesley,
Government-General.

My Lord,

(General Wellesley reports that the last -- convoy under Major Hill had joined him on the 18th which enabled him to move towards the enemy on the 20th - The Maratha army now joined by the brigades of infantry was located about Bokerdun and between that place and Jaffeirabad - The General met Stevenson - on the 21st and they decided to attack the Marathas on the 24th morning. So they marched on the 22nd -- Stevenson by the Western and Wellesley by the eastern route).

"On the 23rd I arrived at (Na.....) and there received a report that Sindiah and the Rajah of Berar had moved off in the morning with their --- cavalry and that the infantry were about to follow but were still in Camp at the distance of about six mile - from the ground on which I had intended to encamp. It was obvious that the attack was no longer to be delayed and having provided for the security of my baggage and stores at (Nulniah) I marched on to attack the enemy.

I found the whole combined army of Sindiah and

the Rajah of Berar encamped on the Kistna river -- nearly on the ground which I had been informed that they occupied. Their right which consisted entirely of cavalry,was about Bokerdum and extended to their corps of infantry which were encamped in the neighbour--hood of Assye. Although I came first in front of their right I determined to attack their left as the defeat of their Corps of infantry was much likely to be -- effectual accordingly I marched round to their left flank covering the march of the column of infantry by the British Cavalry in the rear and by the Mahratta - and Mysore cavalry on the right flank.

We passed the river Kistna at a ford beyond the enemy's left flank and I found the infantry immediately in two lines with the British Cavalry as a reserve in the third and in an open space between that river and a nullah running parallen to it. The Mahrattah and - Mysore cavalry ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ occupied the ground --- beyond the Kistna on our left flank, and kept in check a large body of the enemy's cavalry which had followed our march from the right ~~xx~~ of their own frontier.

The enemy had altered their position of their infantry previous to our attack. It was no longer as at first along the Kisthn but extended from that river across to the village of Assaye upon the Nullah which

was upon our right. We attacked them immediately and the troops advanced under a very hot fire from cannon, the execution of which was terrible. The picquets of the infantry and the 74th Regiment which were on the right of the first and second lines suffered parti-cularly from the fire of the guns on the left of the enemy's frontier near Assaye. The enemy's cavalry also made an attempt to charge the 74th Regiment at the moment when they were most exposed to this fire but they were cut up by the British cavalry which moved in at that moment. At length the enemy's line gave away in all directions and the British cavalry cut in among their broken infantry, but some of their corps went off in good order and a fire was kept up on our troops from many guns from which the enemy had been first driven by individuals who had been passed by the line under the supposition that they were dead.

Lieut-Col.Maxwell with the British cavalry charged one large body of infantry which had retired and was formed again in which operation he was killed, and some time elapsed before we could put an end to the straggling fire which was kept up by the individuals from the guns from which the enemy were driven. The enemy's cavalry also which had been hovering round us throughout the action was still near us.Although

a
At length when the last formed body of infantry gave way the whole went off and left in our hands 90 pieces of cannon."

(The Marathas had retreated to the Adjuntee Ghaut where Wellesley will follow them).

24th September 1803. (Signed) A.Wellesley.

P.S. Col.Stevenson arrived this morning at ---- Bokardum and will possibly will join him this evening.

IMPERIAL RECORDS.FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.SECRET PROCEEDINGS

2nd March 1804, PROCEEDING NO.349.

B.20.

Giving a Table of the ~~deads~~ dead, wounded and missing at the Battle of Assye:-

Killed 24 European Officers 8 Indian Officers

174 " soldiers 222 " soldiers with other Camp Followers.

Wounded 31 + 34 " Officers and sergeants

377 " Soldiers 28 + 39 Indian Officers & Havildars

592 " soldiers + 37 lascars etc.

(Signed) R.Barclay,
Dy.Adjutant General
in Mysore.

IMPERIAL RECORDS.FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.SECRET PROCEEDINGS

2nd March 1804.PROCEEDING NO.350.

B.21

To,
The Right Hon'ble
Marquis Wellesley,
Governor-General.

My Lord,

(General Wellesley reports that the enemy left 1200 men dead and their wounded were scattered all over the country - They were retiring to Burhanpur Stevenson following them down the Ghat - He does not know ~~of~~ their of their plans but Holkar proposed to them to leave --- their army in his hands and retire themselves (the -- chiefs) to their Capital - However that chief was still -north of the Nurbudda, a weel ago).

30th Septr.1803. (Signed) Wellesley.

IMPERIAL RECORDS,FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.SECRET PROCEEDINGS

2nd March 1804,PROCEEDING NO.351.

B.22.

To The Right Hon'ble

Earl Cornwallis,

Governor-General.

My Lord,

I beg leave to inform your Lordship that - Moodaji Bhoslah died last night after an illness of - five or six days.

There is no appearance at this immediate -- juncture of any disorder and I hope that the young -- Raja Raghoji will meet with no obstacle in obtaining a full possession of the Government.

Nagpur, (Signed) Geo.Forster.
19th May 1788.

IMPERIAL RECORDS,FOREIGN DEPARTMENT,SECRETA PROCEEDINGS

Vol.90 p.2199. 6th June 1788.

B.23.

In Camp ten miles North of Juggernant,26th Sept.1803.

To,

N.B.Edmonstone,

Chief Secretary.

Sir,

("The temple and town of Juggernanth were placed under the happy protection of the British arms").

Para 2. There are only two inlets to the town and temple of Jaggernanth and those are on the high road which leads -- through the Cuttack Province from the North to the South of India, the southern inlet is close to the Town and the -- northern inlet within less than the distance of a mile - At each of those inlet the Maratha Government kept a guard and an Officer where a tax was levied on the pilgrims who were on their way to the Temple, the rates which were --- fixed were higher on those who came from the northward than on those who came from the south. 11 Rs.3 annas was the sum payable by a pilgrim from Bengal and pilgrims notoriously poor were exempted and subject only to small exactions - from the peons and guards - the amount of the annual --- collections of Government at those inlets is estimated - from 2½ to 5 lacs of Rupees.

" 3. The offerings given within the temple by the --- pilgrims to the ~~priests~~ priests and officers of Jaggernauth

are exclusively for the expenses of the Temple and its establishment of officers etc. besides which the temple has attached to itself for its support land - rents to a considerable amount and at the annual -- celebration of two particular festivals the extra - expense is defrayed by Government - this may amount to from 30 to 40 thousand Rupees annually.

Para 6. As far as I have yet been able to learn the land revenue of the province of Cuttack may be divided into two classes - One distinguished by the name of - Khalsa and the other Peishcush or Rents from ---- Government lands and Tributary territories. They are supposed at present to amount to nearly eight lacks each.

(Signed) J.Melville.

P.S. The members of the Executive Government of Cuttack have not agreed to his proposals because their families are in Nagpur.

IMPERIAL RECORD.FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.SECRET PROCEEDINGS

1st March 1804. PROCEEDING NO.16.

To,

N.B.Edmonstone,

Chief Secretary.

Sir,

Para 4. Had the Koordah Raja been strictly in alliance with the Maratha Government and not induced by the promise of a lac of rupees to relinquish such --- alliance we should have met with most serious ----- difficulties in advancing to Cuttack and the detachments which would have been required to escorting stores or such supplies as we should have stood in need of from the rear, would have weakened the main body of the force under the command of Lieut-Col.Harcourt to a degree ---- extremely undesirable in the opinion of that Officer.

(Signed) G.Harcourt.

Cuttack, the 5th November 1803. J.Melville

IMPERIAL RECORDS.FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.SECRET PROCEEDINGS

1st March 1804,PROCEEDING NO.28.

B.25.

To Lt.-Col.Harcourt & J.Melville,

Commissioners for Cuttack.

Sirs,

(That the war with Berar had ended and peace made by the Governor-General ratifying the Treaty of Deogaum).

Para 3. You will observe that by the 2nd ~~Article~~ Article of the Treaty the Province of Cuttack and the part of the district of Ballasore are ceded in perpetual ---- sovereignty to the Hon'ble Company - It may be proper to observe by the term "District" is to be understood all the lands lately under the authority of the Maratha Government and not included within the limits of the province of Cuttack of which the revenue was paid at - Ballasore.

Fort William, (Signed) J.B.Edmonstone,
10th January 1804. Chief Secretary.

IMPERIAL RECORDS.FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.SECRET PROCEEDINGS

1st March 1804.PROCEEDING NO.39A.

B.26.

To,

Lt-Col.Harcourt.

Sir,

(Giving a plan of the Fort of Barrabutty)

The works on the river face consist of 3 walls the principal one is 46 feet exclusive of the battle--ments 12 feet thick at top and is constructed of very massy stone with and towers interspersed.

One hundred feet in front of this wall is a second 18 feet high & in advance about 30 feet is the 3rd wall, constructed upon the margin of a stone ditch 35 feet - wide and 15 feer deep.

The walls comprising the remaining parts of this Fort are not more than - feet high and 7 feet -- thick with massive towers at the angles much elevated -- about 60 feet square _ The ditch is wide, being on the -- west side 130 feet broad and all the remaining parts 65 -- feet in many part the scorp and counterscorp is faced with store 15 feet deep and full of water.

There is a very high caval --- the middle of the Fort 60 feet square with a top with a well supported base-

The Gateway is a very heavy of building with 3 pairs of doors in ir and a stone bridge 40 feet long in of it over the dith.

(Signed) J.Blunt Captain

16th October 1803. Field Engineer.

IMPERIAL RECORDS,FOREIGN DEPARTMENT,SECRET PROCEEDINGS

1st March 1804,PROCEEDING NO.71.

B.27.

To,

Major General A.Wellesley,

Sir,

(Collins waited on Sindiah and his ministers on the 25th afternoon to get a final reply to the --- letter sent to him by the General).

Para 3. Jadoon Rao Bhow in reply entered into a long - discussion on the subject of your requisition of which - what follows is an ~~extract~~ abstract. "That the forces of Daulat Rao Sindia and of the Rajah of Berar were - encamped in their own territories. That those chieftains had solemnly promised not to ascend the Adjuntee Ghaut nor to march to Poonah. That they had already given His Excellency the most noble the Governor-General assurances in writing under their own seals that they never would - attempt to subvert the Treaty of Bassein, which assurances were unequivocal proofs of their friendly intentions. That they proposed sending Vakeels to the Peishwa in order to obtain an assurance from His Highness similar to that -- which they had lately received from the Hon'ble General Wellesley. Lastly that the treaty now negotiating between Sindiah and Holkar was not completely settled; and that - until it was finally concluded the Maharaja could not --- return to Hindostan."

In answer to these objections on the part of Jadoon Rao, I observed that the Hon'ble General Wellesley had - already pointed out to Daulat Rao Sindiah how impossible it was that he (the general) should trust to promises alone for the security of the Hon'ble Company and their Allies, whilst two large armies occupied a position so near the frontier of the Nabob Nizam. I said that if Daulat Rao Sindiah derived any advantage from his present position or if it were in the least necessary for the defence of his - own possessions, in either of these supposed cases General Wellesley would have made proper allowances but as it was notorious that the Mahraje had no enemies in this quarter and was so far from driving deriving any advantage that he incurred a most intolerable expense and suffered great - inconvenience in his present situation - and therefore his retaining it could only be ascribed to hostile designs - against the British Government or its allies.

para 5. .....

.....:..... I then remarked that as General ---- Welle sley was vested with full powers as well political as military the assurance contained in his letter to the Mahraje was af equal validity as if given by the most -- noble the Governor-General and consequently ought to -- satisfy all doubts whatever. However that General Wellesley would have no objection to the sending Vakeels to the Court of Poonah provided Sindiah and the Bhonslah in the first

instance retire from the frontier of the Nabob Nizam Lastly I observed that if any part of the Treaty with Juswunt Rao Holkar yet remained unadjusted that ---- Burhanpur was a much more eligible situation for occupy--ing on the negotiation than the Nizam's frontier and I concluded with insisting on an immediate and a distinct - reply to the requisition of the Hon'ble General Wellesley.

Para 6. .... but at length Sindiah and his ministers having solemnly pledged their words that I should have a distinct and pleasing answer on the 28th of this month in the --- presence of Rajah Raghojee Bhonslah I consented to wait till then for their ultimate decision.

Camp near Julgong, (Signed) J.Collins.
26th July 1803.

IMPERIAL RECORDS.FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.SECRET PROCEEDINGS

2nd March 1804. PROCEEDING NO.314.

B.28.

To The Right Hon'ble
Marquis Wellesley,
Governor-General.

My Lord,

(Finding that Raghojee had a small and decreasing force with him and not likely to disturb Nizam's territory Wellesley descended the Ghauts in order to support Col.Stevenson against Gawilgarh - the Col. prepared for the seige marched on Ballapore where Capt.Baynes with the convoy joined him - At this time Wellesley had consented to suspend hostilities - against Sindia if the latter occupied a position -- 20 coss to the east of Elichpur. Sindia had not -- complied and was encamped at Sersooly 4 miles from the Camp of Manoo Bappoo brother of Raghoji - Sindia had only cavalry whilst Manoo with a great part of - cavalry had Rajx Raghoji's whole regular infantry and artillery - Vakeels from Sindia pressed Wellesley - not to attack but the General repeatedly pointed out that hostilities had not been suspended against the - Bhonsla and that against Sindia would be suspended on his complying to agreed terms - Wellesley with Stevenson marched towards the Maratha army; the latter had waited for him at Huttee Amdorah on the 28th - On their ---- arrival near the Marathas they found that the chiefs

had decamped and their army was in a confused mass about 2 miles from Sarsooly from which Wellesley concluded that were on ~~this marsh~~ their march - His own army had marched a long distance on a very hot day so he decided to rest and not to pursue - But a short time afterwards horses appeared on his front. Wellesley perceived the Maratha cavalry, infantry and artillery drawn up in regular order in the front on the plains of Argaum immediately in - front of the village and 6 miles from where he -- decided to camp).

Although late in the day I immediately -- determined to attack this army. Accordingly I march- -ed on in one column the British cavalry leading in a direction ~~nearly~~ nearly parallel to that of the -- enemy's line, covering the rear and left by the ---- Moghul and Mysore cavalry.

The enemy's infantry and guns ~~not~~ were in the left of their centre with a body of cavalry on their left. Sindia's army consisting of one very heavy body of - cavalry was in the right having upon its right a body of Pindaries and other light troops.

Their line extended about 5 miles having in their rear the village and extensive gardens and --

enclosures of Argaum and in their front a plain which however was much cut by water courses etc.

I found the army in two lines the infantry in the first the cavalry second and supporting the right and the Moghul and Mysore cavalry the left -- nearly parallel to that of the enemy with the right - rather advanced to press upon the enemy's left.

Some little time elapsed before the lines could be formed owing to a part of the infantry of my divi-sion which led the column having got into some confusion. When formed the whole advanced in the --- greatest order the 74th and the 78th regiments were attacked by a large body (supposed to be Persians) and all there were destroyed. Sindiah's cavalry --- charged the 1st Battalion 6th Regiment which was on the left of our line and were repulsed and the whole line - retired in disorder before our troops leaving in our - hands 38 pieces of cannon and all their ammunition.

The British cavalry then pursued them for -- several miles and destroyed great numbers and took many elephants and camels and much baggage. The Moghul and Mysore cavalry who pursued the fugitives and did them - great mischief.

(The action began late in the day of the 29th and so sufficient advantage was not taken of the victory

though the cavalry pursued the Marathas in moonlight.

Of the Europeans killed 15 of the Natives killed 31

" " " wounded 145 " " " wounded 148

" " " missing 2 " " " missing 5

30th November 1803. (Signed) A.Wellesley.

IMPERIAL RECORDS.FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.SECRET PROCEEDINGS

2nd March 1804. PROCEEDING NO.387.

B.29.

To The Right Hon'ble
Marquis Wellesley,
Governor-General.

My Lord,

The Fort of Gawilgurh is situated in a range of mountains between the sources of the rivers Poorna and Tapti. It stands on a lofty mountain in this range and consists of one complete inner fort which fronts to the south where the rock is most steep and on the outer fort which covers the inner to the northwest and north. This outer fort has a third wall which covers the approach to it from the north by the cillage of Suboda. All these walls are strongly built and fortified by ramparts and towers.

The communications with the fort are through three gates one to the south with the inner fort one to the - north west with the outer fort and one to the north -- with the third wall. The ascent to the first is very long and steep and is practicable only for men, that to the second is by a road used for the common communications of the garrison with the countries to the southward but the road passes round the west side of the fort and is exposed for a great distance to its fire.

It is so narrow as to make it impracticable to approach regularly by it and the rock is scarped on each side. This roda also leads no further than the gate.

The communication with the northern gate is direct from the village of Suboda and here the ground is level with that of the fort, but the road to Suboda leads through the mountains for about 30 miles from Elichpur and it was obvious that the difficulty and labour of moving the ordnance and stores to Suboda would be very great.

(However the British Commanders after enquiries and consultation decided to attack from Suboda.)

(Col.Stevenson led the main attack whilst Wellesley covered his operations and if possible to attack the southern and the western side).

(Lieut-Col.Chalmers was detached to attack the enemy occupying the ground to the southward and Captain Maitland to seize the fortified village of Davengaum which covered the mountain road to Suboda and to protect the parties sent to reconoitre and repair roads. Both the detachments succeeded.)

(On the 7th both divisions marched from Elichpur. Stevenson's progress was slow and most arduous, the heavy ordnance was dragged by men through mountains and ravines for the whole distance over roads made previously by them -

On the 12th a battery was erected against the north - force and another to destroy and clear the defences on the point of attack- Wellesley's division was erected on the same day a battery against the southern gate but could not bring into play the iron guns - The ~~fire~~ fire from these battalions opened on the 13th morning and on the 14th night the breaches in the outer walls were practicable.)

(By the morning Stevenson was ready to storm the wall and Wellesley also directed two bodies from his - side to storm the walls mainly to draw the Marathas -- attention away from Stevenson - The Col.succeeded and helped to bring Wellesley's force in the walls as well.)

"The wall of the inner fort in which no breach had been made was then to be carried. After some attempts upon the gate of communication between the inner and -- outer fort a place was found at which it was possible to escalade .the wall. Captain Campbell with the light --- infantry of the 94th Regiment fixed the ladders against this place, escaladed the wall opened the Gate for the storming party and the fort was shortly in our possession."

Camp at Elichpur. (Signed) A.Wellesley.
18th December 1803.

IMPERIAL RECORDS.FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.SECRET PROCEEDINGS

2nd March 1804.PROCEEDING NO.389.

B.39.

To,

His Excellency

The Earl of Moira,

Governor-General etc.

My Lord,

Para 5. .....

.....

The Raja seems to have suffered much from the -- oppression and spasms in his chest caused apparently by the accumulation of water; and from other symptoms it - would appear that he had also water in his head, indeed an universal dropsy. This however is only conjecture as the people about His Highness do not seem to have been - aware of the nature of the internal complaint though the external dropsy was manifest. His Highness would take no medicine nor follow any medical prescription declaring almost to the last his expectations of recovery. His -- Highness was within two months of the completion of his fifty sixth year.

para 6. .....

..... Intrigues are of course going on in many quarters. Naroba Chitnavese is at the head of one party and would be induced to coalesce with Appa Sahib, who aspires to be -- Regent. Dharmajee Bhoosla a Chela of the family and much

in the confidence of the late Raja, besides being all -- powerful in the Mahal aspires also to the help and is thought to be in cooperation with Goojaba who aims at - supplanting Appa Sahib - To this party the new Rajah seems at present toincline as he is not on good terms with his - cousin Appa Sahib. His Highness has expressed his anxiety for the return from Benares of Sreedhur Pundit. .... The absence of Sreedhur Pundit at this moment is an unfortunate circumstance as he is -- really the only man in the state of general weight and -- authority.

para 12. His Highness appears at present perfectly blind and deprived of the use of one arm besides being unable to stand. Part of his bodily weakness however is probably to be attributed to his long habits of indolence.

Nagpur.

(Signed) R.Jenkins,
Resident.

IMPERIAL RECORDS.FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.SECRET PROCEEDINGS

15th April 1818.PROCEEDING NO.1

To,

R.Jenkins,

Resident at Nagpur.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that having proceeded yesterday at noon to take possession of the guns which His Highness the Rajah had agreed to give up the Heads of the Columns were fired upon from the -- enclosed gardens of the Sáóka Surry and subsequently by the several batteries in my front. I immediately formed -the troops for the attack and have the satisfaction to say that by half past one O'Clock the whole of the --- enemy's guns and camps were in our possession.

(Signed) J.Doveton.

Nagpur, Brigadier General.

17th December 1817.

IMPERIAL RECORDS.FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.SECRET PROCEEDINGS

9th January 1818.PROCEEDING NO.7.

B.32.

To The Right Hon'ble
Earl Cornwallis,
Governor-General.

My Lord,

Para 4. By the death of his brother Bembajee who had no male issue Ruttunpur with its districts has become the possession of Moodajee who it is said proposes to invest with them his second son Chimnaji conformably to the desire of the widow of the deceased chief who had adopted him.

Nagpur, (Signed) Geo.Forster,
23rd January 1788.

IMPERIAL RECORDS.FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.SECRET PROCEEDINGS

29th February 1788. P. No.501.

B.33.

To,

The Right Hon'ble

Earl Cornwallis,

Governor-General.

My Lord,

I have the honour to inform your Lordship that our party this day arrived at this place and that I delivered my credentials together with Your Lordships letter from Calcutta to the Rajah who - received them with tokens of much satisfaction and seemed to be pleased with the Mission.

Nagpur, (Signed) Geo.Forster.
15th January 1788.

IMPERIAL RECORDS.FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.SECRET PROCEEDINGS

6th February 1788.PAGE NO.313.

B.34.

To The Right Hon*ble
Lord Minto,
Governor-General.

My Lord,

Jeswunt Rao then mentioned the capitulation of Ratgurh to Sindia and the probability of that chief moving towards Bhopaul. He also informed me that the Raja's army under Seideek Alla Khan had taken Chynpore Baree and that Hoosengabad would soon fall, Jaswant Rao then took his leave.

Some days ago intelligence was received that the Raja's army under Gunput Rao which had been reinforc-ed by some of Sindia's troops under Bhoojung Rao and Dhoondoo Moriea said to amount to 3000 men has obtained possession of Hoosengabad. This event has afforded great satisfaction to the Rajah. Gunput Rao's army has since crossed the Nurbudda to pursue the plans which has been formed between the Rajah and Sindia for the partition of Bhopaul.

Para 12. Since the army of Gunput Rao crossed the -- Nurbudda the Durrah or party of Seetoo's Pindarees - unser his son Dost Muhomad united as it is reported - with some of the troops of Wuzier Mahomad Khan ----

amounting to about 4000 has taken the opportunity of invading the Rajahs country. These pindarees -- first appeared in the ~~kxnix~~ neighbourhood of Maltoy at which place they are said to have divided into - two bodies - One party consisting of 1500 horse -- moved towards Nagpore and carried its devastations to within 7 or 8 miles of the City from which the - conflagrations which marked its tract were distinctly seen - This partly proceeded towards Hatchengong on the Wurdah, but the ~~kxxkxxk~~ latest accounts mention that on its return. The Rajah finds so much difficulty in assembling his troops which are scattered in every direction through the city that no effectual measures are ever taken in time to arrest the progress of the plunderers, and it is likely that they will be able x to retire unmolested with their spoil. Of the other body of Pindarees no certain intelligence has yet -- been received but it is said to have moved through the hills towards Chhutteesgarh.

(Signed) R.Jenkins.

Nagpur,28th November 1807. Resident.

IMPERIAL RECORDS,FOREIGN DEPARTMENT,POLITICAL PROCEED-

-INGS,VOL.226,21st December 1807.PROCEEDING NO.4.

B.35.

To,

The Right Hon'ble

Lord Minto,

Governor-General.

My Lord,

(From the Resident explaining the Rajas requests and demands to the restoration of some of his lands taken over at the Peace of Deogaum).

In order to shew the grounds of the Rajah's present expectations it may be proper to acquaint Your Lordship with the manner in which they first-- arose. By the treaty of Deogaum, the Raja besides - ceding Berar and Cuttack (in the 2nd and 3rd Articles agreed in the 10th Article to confirm all treaties made during the war between the British and his -- feudatories. When accounts were received from Bengal it appeared that the province of Sumbulpore and its dependencies had been guaranteed to certain Zemindars of the country who had joined the British against the Marathas and the benefit of the 10th Article of the Treaty was accordingly claimed for them. The Raja - continued contended that the circumstances of the -

treaty with the Sumbulpure Zemindars were such as to exclude that transaction from the operation of the - Treaty of Deogaum. The Marquis Wellesley though he - maintained that the treaties with the Zemindars were precisely of the species which the Raja had agreed to, yet in consideration of His Highness's heavy losses offered the Raja a compensation equal to thrice the - value of the Province so ceded. The Raja did not accept this offer but admitted the application of the treaty to Sumbulpore and has not since advanced any claim to that province. His Highness frequently complained of - the great reduction of his power, represented his losses to be greater than those of Sindia in proportion to his territories and expressed his hopes that the Company would one day restore some part of the country he had ceded.

N.B. (The Minister Shreedhur then pointed out the bad state in which Berar was placed because of the Nizam's bad administration - Till the Year 1805 the Raja laid claim to Sumbulpore but in the above year Lord Cornwallis taking into consideration the Raja's losses - compared to others agreed to cede Sumpulpur if the -- Zemindars agreed to go under him. The Governor-General in a letter to the Raja made known in general his --- intentions but owing to a delicacy of feelings refrained

to mention the part to be ~~xtor~~ restored and consequent-
-ly the Raja and his ministers enlarged their claim
to the restoration of Berar and Cuttakk as well.

The Raja continued to allude to his extra -
claims till the Resident had left for Nagpur. However
on his return they toned down and made more moderate
suggestions.)

(Signed) Major General
Elphinstone,
Resident.

23rd March 1808.

IMPERIAL RECORDS.FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.POLITICAL PROCEEDINGS

VOL.231,18th April 1808. PROCEEDING NO.8.

B.36.

To,

Rajah Raghojee Bhooslah.

From the Governor General.

The proposition which Your Highness recites as having been received from Mr.Jenkins for the - security of your frontier against external attack - was conveyed to Your Highness as I intimated in my - last letter by my direction at the time when the -- British troops were advancing for the expulsion of the enemy, Your Highness however having stated your --- sentiments on that proposition in a manner to preclude all hope of your being induced to concur in it, the - British troops after having compelled the enemy to -- retreat from the frontier of Your Highness's dominions which way the object of their taking the field returned towards their usual stations and the army from ------- Bundelkhund had reached that province and that under the personal command of Col.Close had recrossed the - Nurbudda when Your Highness departing from your original resolution signified your consent to the establishment of a British force to the northward for the protection of your country intimating however that Your Highness

would not be disposed to bear any part of the expense attending that arrangement.

N.B. The Governor-General mentioned that for this season atleast it was not possible to station a force in the north because lot of other preliminaries and - engagements had to be entered into which would take - away a lot of time, But however his consent to have - British troops on the north of his territories will be taken into consideration and further proposals advanced to him.

B.37.

To,

N.B.Edmonstone,

Chief Secretary to the Government.

Sir,

(Giving a historical sketch of Gurra Kotta & Bhopaul).

GURRA KOTTA.

This country as is well known formed part of the territory possessed by Chuttersaul the first Rajah of --- Bundelkhund - The circumstances of the great Baji Rao having been of the Mussalman some assistance to the Rajah, in ---- completing the extinction of the Mussalman powers in that - province is also matter of record - the death of Chuttersaul and the secession of his dominions between his two sons - Hurdee Shah and Juggut Rang in exclusion of a claim set up by Baji Rao to a third by inheritance under the pretended will or promise of Chuttersal brought the Marathas into the country which they plundered and laid waste in the manner of the pindaries of the present day.

Prithee Sing was one of the numerous illegitimate sons of Chuttersaul - discontended and ambitious he hoped to profit by a foreign connection and is said to have contributed to put the Marathas in possession of an important fortress - in Bundelkhund. When a treaty was concluded with the Marathas by which the Peishwa obtained a territory valued at 30 lakhs

including the districts of Gurra Kottah etc. Prithee Sing as the enemy of his family and country was expel-led by his relatives and took refuge with the Marathas - By them he was invested as a reward for his services with the principality of Gurra Kotta yielding a revenue revenue of about 6 lakhs of rupees per annum. The exact terms of the grant I have not been able to ascertain but from what I can learn it would appear to have been absolute in -- respect of freedom from tribute although subjecting -- Prithee Sing to Military service to the Peishwa's Govern-ment.

The intermediate by which the descendants of - Prithee Sing whose grandson the late Murdan Sing is --- represented to have been continued to make themselves - independent of the local authorities in Bundelkhund are not well known but may be easily deduced from the ----- circumstances of the times and the general history of - Bundelkhund with which Government is well acquainted. It seems to be certain however that from or even before the succession of Murdun Sing to the Rauj the authorities of the Marathas over Gurra Kotta had become a cypher.

Sindia has occasionally been able to inforce - demands for tribute on Gurra Kotta but I believe it is of only of late years that this has been attempted as that -

the small contributions which could be raised there have been considered worthy that trouble of levying them - But any discussion of Sindia's former right - on Gurra Kotta is unnecessary since he now holds --- possession of the principal part of the country by consequent ~~xnx~~ on the pretended cession by the sons of Murdan Sing.

The revenues of Gurra Kotta at the present day are considered to amount to nine lakhs of rupees per annum - Maltown and the Fort of Gurra Kotta with the adjoining petta of Hardasnugger and a territory of six lakhs are occupied by Baptiste and the remaining 3 lakhs of country with the fort of Lalgurh are --- possessed by Takht Sing and Urjoon Sing the sons of the late Murdun Sing who lost his life last yeat in the warfare with this Government.

The Rajah of Berar pretends to no right - founded on ancient claims to any part of the Gurra - Kotta territories but the conduct of Murdun Sing in aiding Meer Khan afforded a plausible ground for -- dispossessing him and adding Gurrah Kotta to the --- Nagpore dominions this design would probably have - in the end succeeded but for the interference of Sindia.

BHOPAUL.

Para 13. From what I can learn on the subject of the - hostilities which have so long been carried on between the Rajah's Government and the Bhopaul State would appear to have originated in the time of the 1st Ragojee - The contention is stated to have been for the possession of Hooshangabad.

This fort had been built by the Pathans of -- Bhopaul on a territory which was granted to them by the Goand Rajahs of Deogurh as a Military Jagir ; On this -- ground as a pretence of right and from its being of so -- much importance as a frontier fortress Raghoji and his successors Janoji and Moodaji made many unsuccessful -- efforts to wrest it from Bhopaul Nabobs but it was reserv--ed for the present Rajah to obtain possession of so --- valuable a station - This was accomplished in 1799 by a capitulation and a treaty never ratified by the Rajah - fixing the Nurbuddah as the future boundary of the respec--tive States of Nagpur and Bhopaul.

Hooshangabad was recovered by Vazier Muhomad Khan in concert with the Pindaries during the Maratha War of 1803 and the fort and district of Seoni were besides -- wrested from the Rajah - On his march from Booshaspore in 1804 Sindia beseiged and took Seoni which he restored to the Rajah for a sum of money in 1807 and during the cold

season of that year Hooshangabad fell again into His Highness's possession with the ~~exp~~ cooperation of - Sindia - about the same time Chynpore Baree and -- Chaukeigurh were taken by Sadeek Ali and in prosecu--tion of a plan of partition to which Sindia acceded on the payment of a sum of money by the Rajah his --- troops obtained a temporary possession of Bhopaul which was however soon recovered by Vazier Mahomad and the - districts of Chynpore Baree and Chaukeegurh alone -- remained to the Rajah Government.

(Signed) R.Jenkins.
Resident.

IMPERIAL RECORDS,FOREIGN DEPARTMENT,POLITICAL PROCEED--INGS.

VOL.301,3rd January 1812,PROCEEDING NO.55.

B.88.

To,

The Right Hon'ble

Marquis of Hastings.

Governor_General.

My Lord,

(R.Jenkins Report on his tour through the Gondarea)

I derived the highest satisfaction from my inter_ -course with these people and from everything I had heard and observed reppecting their conduct _ They seem to be _ - without exception the easiest class of people(subject) _ for us to deal with and to attack _ They are plain dealers and though spoken of as a people who have been habituated to every kind of theft, robbery and murder really disposed to be honest and quiet but they must be honestly and justly treated _In the midst of the poverty and distress caused by our operations against them pressed by famine and disease during the late calamitious season they resisted every _ temptation to revert to their old habits and relied on us for relieving them, a trust in which I need not say they were not deceived.

(Signed) R.Jenkins,

Resident.

Camp Balaspoor,

30th November 1820.

IMPERIAL RECORDS,FOREIGN DEPARTMENT,POLITICAL PROCEEDINGS

VOL.483, 10th February 1821,PROCEEDING NO.52.

B.39.

Letter dated 10th August 1749.

To the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble the United Company of Merchants of England trading to be East Indies.

May it please Your Honours,

Para 33. Mr.Henry Kelsall by a letter dated the 5th May advised us of the Morattoes being encamped within sight of the Kuttack Factory and that the Nabob's force were distant by but 3 corse from that place and under date the eighth following he wrote us that Nilla Pundit with the command of a strong body of the Morattoes Horse were encamped close to the factory and that their putting off the plundering of that place till the next morning was the saving of it for as their Horse entered the town the Nabob appeared and immediately sent part of his forces over the river which pursued him and got up with him in a very small time·that what their loss was he could not learn the reports being various· That on the Nabob's arrival he sent the vacqueels to him for permission to wait on him which being granted he met with a very gracious reception from the Nabob who asked him if he had been to visit Meerabib but on informing him that he had not he seemed exceedingly well pleased and told him when he returned whatever he asked should be granted.

Para 35. Under date the 19th May he wrote to us that the Nabob was encamped within three leagues of Cuttack and that he hourly expected to hear the news of Merrabibsano Auga Sheriffs being delivered into the Nabob's hands by their own Zemindar and - two days following he advised us - that some of - the people whom he had sent to follow the Nabob's army were returned with the news of his having -- entered Cuttack that on his approach Meerabib with the Morattoes fled that five of the head Zemindars stayed behind and surrendered themselves to the -- Nabob who immediately cut their heads - that no - judgment could at that time ~~xxxxxxxx~~ be formed - how long the Nabob would stay there as Dooloobram and Meer Jaffer to both of whom he offered the Nabob--ship having refused it as they doubted not but the Morattoes would return next season.

Fort William
10th August 1749.

May it please Your Honour's
Your most faithful & most
obedient humble servants

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B.40.

To The Hon'ble the Court of Directors

Hon'ble Sirs,

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Para 99. We acquainted you in our last advices with our determination to appoint Mr·George Forster to return to Nagpore as Resident at the Court of the Berar Rajah and we transmitted at the same time a copy of the instructions we had given him. He accompanied the detachment of Bengal Troops under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Cokerell as far as Cuttack and remained there till he heard of -- their having passed the Chilka Lake when his services -- being no longer necessary to the detachment he pursued his journey to Nagpore; when he arrived on the ~~4th~~ 3rd June.

" 100. The letters which the Governor General furnished Mr.Forster to Raghojee Boosla were delivered a few days - after his arrival and he soon received a visit from ---- Ragojee, at which the Rajah expressed generously his --- satisfaction at the deputation and his desire of promoting the common purposes of the War acknowledging that he had been invited to take up arms against Tippoo by the Courts of Hyderabad and Poona. In the conversations however which

he had with your Resident he appeared well disposed ~~of~~ to supply us with a Military aid, but had pointedly ~~promxi~~ promised that any agreement with him for such assistance should be independent~~ly~~ of the Court of Poona.

Para 101. Accordingly by the desire of the Rajah your Resident transmitted a propoal to the Governor-General, to supply the Company with 8000 cavalry to be ready to march in September under the command of an Officer of confidence and distinction. The pay required for these troops was at the rate of 400 Rupeesa year for each man exclusive of an extraordinary allowance to be made to the Officers. Mr.Forster objected to the terms as being very high but the Rajah only observed that few obstacles should impede the negeciations if heartily commenced - and desired him to submit the proposal to the Governor-General with a request to be furnished with his ----- Lordships sentiments at length on it.

Para 102. On this proposal the Governor-General acquaint-ed Mr.Forster that the stipulations of the treaties -- which had been concluded between the Mahrattas and the Nizam would according to all present appearance render it unnecessary for us to enter into any separate negocia-tion with the Rajah and for an aid of cavalry but desir-ed him to express to the Rajah our sense of his -------

friendship and good will in the voluntary offer he made to assist us with 8000 Horse.

Para 104. We likewise thought it right to desire the Resident on every proper occasion when the war should be mentioned to express his surprise at the Rajah's -- having hitherto appeared rather lukewarm, in a cause in which so many of his friends were earnestly engaged and to assure him that we have the firm reliance on his -- losing him no time to take necessary measures for ---- enabling him of the rains to act with vigour against - the common enemy in concert with the other members of the Maratha State.

Fort William,
18th August 1790.

May it please Your Honours
Your most faithful & Most
obedient humble servants

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IMPERIAL RECORDS.HOME DEPARTMENT.POLITICAL LETTERS

TO THE COURT OF DIRECTORS. VOL.3. PAGE 483.

To,

The Court of Directors,

Hon'ble Sirs,

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Para 46. Balaji Pundit it is reported has in return for the immoral conduct of Azumul-Omrah instigated Ragojee Booslah to plunder some of the Nizam's villages in order to create a coolness between the latter and the Peshwa.

" 47. We further understand His Highness had resolv--ed to punish Ragojee who is a dependent of the Maratha Government without any previous application for redress to the Peshwah; and this will probably be considered at Poonah as an infraction of the engagements at present existing between the two Courts.

May it please Your Honours
Your most faithful & Most
obedient humble servants

Fort William,
13th August 1798.

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IMPERIAL RECORDS,HOME DEPARTMENT.POLITICAL LETTERS

TO THE COURT OF DIRECTORS.VOL.7,PAGE 577.

B.42.

To,

The Court of Directors

Hon'ble Sirs,

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Para 162. In the 257th paragraph of his despatch to Your Honourable Company of the 31st of July the late Governor-General in Council adverted to the projected cooperation of the Rajah of Berar and Daulat Rao Sindia for the conquest of territory of Bhopaul and ~~khm~~ to the pecuniary engagements supposed to have been concluded for that purpose between - those two chiefs.

" 163. In a despatch dated the 28th of August and -- recorded as per margin the Resident reported the following information upon that subject; that the Rajah's army on the Nurbudda had been ordered to cross that river for the --- purpose of cooperating with Scindiah's troops in the seige of Hoshangabad the Capital of Bhopaul. That the attention of the Rajah appeared at present to be exclusively direct-ed to the affairs of Bhopaul and that Scindia(as was --- reported) had been induced by a Banker in the interest of Nana Sahib the Rajah's brother and residing in Scindiah's Camp to promise half of the territories of Bhopaul to Nana Sahib but that the resentment of the Rajah occasioned by -

the discovery of this intrigue had been suppressed appeas-
-ed and even his consent to the arrangement obtained by
the influence of his mother and that Nana Sahib was said
to have actually advanced to Scindia a considerable part
if not the whole of the sum which had been fixed as the
price of his share and which was reported to be 2 lacks
and a half of rupees.

Para 164. The Resident further stated that Nana Sahib
was employed in raising at Nagpore two battalions of -
infantry intended (as it was supposed) to form a part
of a force destined to establish his authority in ---
Sumbulpur an object which he had hitherto found it ----
impossible to accomplish by negotiation and that part of
his plan was now represented to be the reinstatement of
the Rajahs whom he had detained in confinement and had
refused to release as already fully reported to Your --
Hon"ble Court in the various despatches of this Govern-
-ment relative to the negotiation for the cession of the
provinces of Sumbulpur and Patna to the Rajah of Berar.

Fort William,
1st October 1807.

May it please Your Honours
Your most faithful & Most
obedient humble servants

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IMPERIAL RECORDS.HOME DEPARTMENT.POLITICAL LETTERS

TO THE COURT OF DIRECTORS.VOL.7.PAGE 577.

B.43.

HOLKAR'S VAKEEL'S PROPOSALS TO THE BERAR RAJA.

To the Court of Directors,

Hon'ble Sirs,

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Para 71. They were in substance that the Rajah -- should unite with Holkar in a common cause. That he should either meet Holkar with a respectable force for the purpose of consulting on the objects of their combined operations or send a similar force to act - with Holkar under the commadd of one of his relation or a Chief of reputation. That in the event of either of those plans being unacceptable to the Rajah he -- should furnish Holkar with funds to enable him to -- increase his force and to prosecute his plans and -- finally if the Rajah would not consent to these --- propositions that His Highness should restore to -- Holkar the jewels and property of their value stated to have been confiscated by the Government of Nagpore at the time when Holkar was in confinement in that - City - On this latter article which very much embaras--sed the Rajah Holkar had founded an exhorbitant demand for money and has stated an intention to proceed in - person to Nagpore if it should not be complied with.

Para 72. The authenticity of some part of the above

information is corroborated by the intelligence ----- received by Mr.Mercer of corresponding propositions made by Holkar to Dawlat Rao Sindia as will be stated in a subsequent part of this despatch. Mr.Jenkins - understood that the Rajah had given no decided -- reply to Holkar's Vakeel who continued to urge him for a categorical answer to his master's propositions particularly to the last. But it is probable that while Sindia's troops remain in the vicinity of the Rajah's dominions he will continue the same ------ temporizing line of conduct with respect to Holkar's demands. A second Vakeel from Holkar arrived at -- Nagpore but at the time of our latest advices from the Resident no intercourse had taken place between him and the Durbar- a third vakeel was stated to be on the road.

Para 73. Since the ~~xxxx~~ date of our last despatches intelligence has been received that the army of the - Rajah has obtained possession of Hoossengabad and was proceeding in cooperation with Sindia's troops on the plans which had been formed between the Rajah and --- Sindia for the conquest of Bhopaul as stated in the 162nd and following paragraphs of our letter of the 1st of October.

" 74. The troops which in that despatch we ---

stated Nana Saheb to the detaching towards Chanda -- have since made a movement in the direction of Bhopaul which is said to be connected with the negotiations - alluded to in the same letter between Sindia and Nana - Sahib for putting the latter in possession of a portion of Bhopaul on payment of a sum of money -Three or four lacks of rupees have already been paid to Scindia on the part of Nana Sahib. Mr.Jenkins mentions that a report has been prevalent at Nagpore for some time of an intended combination against the British Government and of a design to emancipate the Peshwa from our --- control -Propositions of this tendency are said to have been made by Holkars vakeel to the Rajah and similar -- views are ascribed by report to the Rajah and Scindia whose avowed designs on Bhopaul it was conjectur--ed might afford a pretext for the junction of their --- troops.

Para 75. These reports which are generally prevalent at the season of the year when the weather becomes --- favourable for Military operations are not in our opinion entitled to credit - A combination of such complicated - and conflicting interests as that of Sindia, the Rajah of Berar and Holkar has every appearance of impracticability and even if formed seems incapable of efficiency or dura--tion. Any such combination must almost necessarily have for its object either immediate or remotely a hostile -- design against the British Government and we do not believe

the present condition of either of the three powers above mentioned is such as to lead them to entertain intentions of that nature. With regard to the proposed design respecting the Peshwa it must be well known to Holkar that His Highness will not be induced to listen to any proposal involving the loss of the British -- Alliance and it is therefore unlikely that any such - proposition will be made to him.

May it please Your Honours
Your most faithful & Most
obedient humble servants,

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IMPERIAL RECORDS,HOME DEPARTMENT,POLITICAL LETTERS TO THE COURT OF DIRECTORS,VOL.23,PAGE 325.

B.44.

Relating to the Rajahs requests to restore his dominions taken by the last War.

To the Hon'ble The Court of Directors,

Hon'ble Sirs,

Para 290. .....

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In that letter the ~~Government~~ Governor-General after stating that his knowledge of the Rajah's former correspondence with Lord Cornwallis & Sir George Barlow on this subject had apprized him of the solicitude manifest--ed by those personages to compensate for the Rajah's --- losses to the utmost extent practicable consistently with due regard to equity and justice and to the obligations of public faith and of their endeavours to accomplish that purpose and that his Lordship himself was actuated by an equal solicitude to improve His Highness's condition, His Lordship proceeded to state some observations on His - Highness's originally declared expectations of the ---- extension of his dominions to their original limits - that is ~~xxxx~~ to say the restoration of the provinces of Berar and Cuttack His Lordship observed that the tenor ~~of~~ of the Rajah's Conferences with Mr.Elphinstone after his return to Nagpore warranted a supposition that he still -

entertained a hope of one of both of those provinces being restored to him and that His Highness adverting to the assurances which he had received from this Govern--ment of a desire to compensate his losses to the utmost extent practicable _ Consistently with the equity and public faith had declared his opinion that it was as - consistent with equity and public faith to restore -- either Berar or Cuttack as Sumbulpur and Patna His --- Lordship then remarked that a little reflection must,he was satisfied, convince His Hxx Highness that such an - expectation was unreasonable and that this opinion was - founded in error.

Para 292. The Province of Berar His Lordship said by being annexed to the dominions of His Highness the Nizam ceased to be at the disposal of the British Government. That Government was bound by treaty to secure to His -- Highness the integrity of his dominions. It was evident therefore that consistently with public faith no measures could be adopted with a view to the restoration of that Province.

" 293. With respect to Cuttack His Lordship observed that the obligations xxxxxx both of equity and public faith rendered it impossible to transfer the possession of it to another State _ For in the first place the British ----- Government could not in justice be expected to resign the

possession of a territory valuable not merely on - account of its produce but in a still greater degree on account of its position and acquired not by the -- efforts of irregular ambition and aggressive violence but by the result of a War in which that Government was compelled to engage for the defence of its rights and those of its allies and secondly the restoration of the Province of Cuttack would not be consistent with the obligations of public faith because the protection of the British Government was pledged to the Chiefs and landlords of the province and it would be violating of that principle to compel them to place themselves - under another dominion after having acquired valuable rights and privileges solemnly declared to be ------- indefeasible.

page.684.
Para 303.line 4 Mr.Jenkins states that the attention of the Rajah's.Government is almost entirely directed towards Bhopaul the City and fort of which name had fallen into the Rajah's hands who anticipated the speedy reduction of the province that,however Vizier Mohumud Khan was enabled with the assistance of the Pindarees to surprise and recapture it.

Para 304. The Rajah has not abandoned his designs on that quarter but since the movement of Sindia to the --

northward the troops of the Nagpore Rajah find it difficult to maintain their conquests.

Para 305. The troops of Nana Sahib the Raja's brother which had advanced to Jubbulpur as --- stated in our former communications respecting the affairs of Nagpore in connection with a -- supposed negotiation between him and Sindia had - returned and have since been employed in the -- province of Chhutteesgurh for the purpose of - confirming Nana Sehib's authority in that ---- quarter - It is expected that after the rainy season they will commence operations for the - reduction of Sumbulpore and Ratna which have not yet submitted to the authority of the Marathas.

May it please Your Honours

Fort William,
27th.September 1808.

Your most faithful & Most obedient humble servants

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B.45

Dealing with the affairs of Sirguja at the Court of Nagpur.

The Court of Directors,

Hon'ble Sirs,

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Para 175. While the transactions above rerpa reported were passing in Sirgoojah Mr.Jenkins had been engaged in prosecuting at Nagpur a negotiation having the same -- object in view as was pointed out in our instructions to Major Roughsedge of the 3rd of February - Appa Sahib had from the first expressed his desire to establish his own authority in Sirgujah merely assigning an allowance to the Rajah and the Rannee; but Mr.Jenkins perceiving - that this arrangement would not be consistent with that which Major Roughsedge was prosecuting, opposed it on the ground of it affecting the rights of the Rajah which it was our object to support and he urged Appa Sahib to instruct his Officer in Sirgujah to accede to any arrange--ment/ that might be suggested by Major Roughsedge. On receiving the engagement concluded by Major Roughsedge with the Subahdar of Kattumpore Appa Sahib signified his dissatisfaction at it but without stating any positive objection - however brought forward another project to

the followng effect.

Para 176. That the Ranee adopting as her son a -- member of the Sirguja family should remain in the country on a suitable stipend to be fixed by the -- British Government that the country should be taken under the management of the Officers of the Nagpur - Government and that proper officers and troops should be established in the country every care being taken for the observance of due respect and consideration - for the Ranee, that the resources of the country -- should be charged with the expence of the troops - required that arrears of Malgoozary should be paid up:- Criminals mutually surrendered and that a corresponding arrangement should be made for Juspore.

" 178. It appeared clearly from Mr.Jenkins despatch that Appa Sahib was at least as much averse to the --- engagement actually concluded as ourselves and that we should therefore find no difficulty in reconciling our own policy to a just consideration for the wishes of - Appa Sahib by declining to ratify an engagement which - under that Prince's declared repugnance to it, we could not reasonably require him to confirm - We accordingly - instructed Mr.Jenkins to take an early opportunity of -- renewing the subject with the Durbar and we stated ----- generally the tone we wished him to hold as placing our - procedure in a great degree on the footing of our desire

to meet the wishes of Appa Sahib as well as to preclude the necessity of our interference in future - We desired Mr.Jenkins to propose the formation of an arrangement - on the basis of Appa Sahib's propositions but we of -- course secured to the Ranee the option of declining -- to accede to that part of them which affected her and we renewed the declaration of our readiness to provide for her separately on her abandoning all connection with -- Surgujah.

May it please Your Honours
Your most faithful & Most
obedient humble servants,

Fort William,
1st January 1817.

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IMPERIAL RECORDS,HOME DEPARTMENT,POLITICAL LETTERS

TO THE COURT OF DIRECTORS,VOL.37,PAGE.265.

B.46.

Escape of Appa Sahib from Asseergarh

The Court of Directors,

Honourable Sirs,

Para 6. Appa Sahibh s contrived d to effect his escape in disguise or to conceal himself from the - search of the Captors of the Fort; for by the late accounts he has not yet been apprehended - There does not seem to be any reason to doubt(indeed there is - direct evidence) that he was admitted into the fortress but the precise moment at which he made his escape(if such has been the case) has not been ascertained. In the best presumption for him he is now a wandering - fugitive without followers and it is not probable that he can long elude the vigilance of ~~ys~~ our agents and Officers who are zealously looking out for him in every quarter.

" 7. We have the honour to transmit enclosed a - copy of the account given to Sir John Malcolm by the son of the late Pindaree Chief Cheetoo of the reception of Appa Sahib in Asseergarh.

" 8. Cheetoo and his son were the companions of

Appa Sahib's flight from the Gondwana Hills.
They appear to have separated from him on their
arrival in the vicinity of Assergarh.

Fort William,

May it please Your Honours
Your most faithful & Most
obedient humble servants

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B.47.

(RESOLVED AT THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S COUNCIL).

It having already been determined that we should enter upon a negotiation with Janoojee the Maratha Chief of Cuttack with a view of opening a direct communication with the coast, and his Vacqueel now in Calcutta represent--ing to the President that his country is greatly oppres--sed by the ravages of Sheo Bhut who hath likewise --- plundered some villages in the Province of Midnapore.

Resolved that we support Janogee in expelling the enemy from his country and that we detach Captain - Upton with a party of 50 Europeans a battalion of sepoys and 2 field pieces on this service.

Fort William,

7th October 1766.

IMPERIAL RECORDS. FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.POLITICAL PROCEEDINGS

SELECT COMMITTEE, VOL. II. PP.200-1

B.48.

FROM MAH RAJAH JANOOJEE BHONSLAH TO LORD CLIVE.

After recapitulating his Lordships letter of the 30th August 1766 he informs his Lordship that formerly letters from the English were wrote to him not to unite with or assist Cassim Ally nor distress Mir Jaffier nor the country thereby and he should consider him them as security for the Chouth of Bengal. Out of respect to the friendship which had subsisted of old between the --- English and him and out of respect to the letters, he had not received the bills and money which Cassim Ally - sent him nor granted him an asylum in the Subah of Cuttack which he had desired, that in confidence of the English - security he had borrowed twenty lacks of Rupees for the payment of his troops, of the Sahukars of Nagpoor but to his great surprise two years and upwards had elapsed - without the receipt of any money notwithstanding -which he had made no movement to prejudice the English That now however upon the receipt of his Lordship's letter acquainting him of the firm continuance of the English friendship and his desire to settle the affairs of the -- Chouth and his having sent Vakeels to negotiate the -- matters he was perfectly of the opulency of Bengal the payment of the largest sums was easy and therefore his Lordship should send as large sums as possible by -----

Oudipoory Goosain and whatever should come to him by his hands at the river Nurbuddah where he was --- proceeding to join Ragnatch Row would give him the highest satisfaction. He acquaints his Lordship -- that his Vakeel was not yet arrived but that his - negotiation was of the less consequence as everything might be settled at Calcutta by Oudipoory Gussain - and whatever engagements he should enter into he --- should abide by. He concludes with pressing a performance of the former engagements and the remittance of Bills of Exchange.

UPON A RUCKAH INCLOSED.

You inform me that as our enemies and friends are common to both you have ordered a force to assist in the reduction of the rebel Sheo Bhut and that you do not desire the expenses of the same should be paid now but be brought to account next year when the Chouth is settled, that your Vakeel when he comes will negotiate matters concerning Cuttack and if what he says proves agreeable to me, it is well, otherwise you have no -- concern with that Subah, all you regard is friendship When I was acquainted with these things I received the greatest pleasure and rested perfectly satisfied concern--ing the affairs of Bengal.

I have long searched for a friend brave and

true at last in you I have found one. Though at present Sheobut is surrounded by my troops yet I have wrote - Bhowany Pundit express orders that in case the English forces should come to help him he should unite with -- them in every duty of friendship and cooperate with them in the destruction of Sheubut but in case the affair - should be already settled he should give them a meeting and then let them return, and seeing that the revenues of the districts are much too small for the maintenance of his present force he should march and join Regnatch Row. Rectitude and good faith are the support of Heaven and Earth but in these days few are found who possess - them nor have I in the Deccan after all my searches -- found any one except you. Your letter confirms to me your adherence to the former engagements nothing therefore -- remains further to be said but thr whole rests on your word and you will with due expedition perform whatever is right. Your assisting me with the Bills of - Exchange with Oudipory Gossain will give me the greatest satisfaction. The affair of ..... You have committed to your Vakeel as soon as he shall arrived I will write to you what passes as we are now one and there is no --- further occasion for vakeels, Oudipoory Gussain is the only person acting between us whatever he shall settle or say will be agreeable to both parties and you will - consider this letter in place of a thousand. You will also

send me Bills of Exchange with all expedition.

Seeing there is no separation or dissention between us, whatever I have is yours and whatever you have is mine. In this case all our districts are ---- common. The Subahdar of Cuttack is in fact your Naib, he will use all diligence in giving you satisfaction - nor will depart in anything from your pleasure.

Nagpur,
23rd February 1767.

IMPERIAL RECORDS,FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.POLITICAL PROCEEDINGS SELECT COMMITTEE,VOL.13,PP.104-6,23rd February 1767.

B.49.

To,

Colonel Richard Smith,

Commander-in-Chief under the Presidency.

Dear Sir,

Para 6. By letters which the President has this day laid before us from Janoji and Ranaut Rao we observe they arrogantly assume a claim to the Chouth and they advise therein that they have now got in readiness - an army in the Province of Berar for the settlement of affairs in the Empire which will shortly enter ---- Hindustan - We must therefore recommend to you to keep a watchful eye over the Marathas and to advise us from time to time of their motion.

Fort William,

22nd December 1767.

IMPERIAL RECORDS, FOREIGN DEPARTMENT, POLITICAL PROCEEDINGS

SELECT COMMITTEE, VOL.13, P. 483.

B.50

The Resolution of the Committee on the Treaty with Janoji.

The Committee taking into consideration the --- vast importance of uniting the Company's territories-- on the coast with the Kingdom of Bengal and the province Behar; a step which will complete the chain of their -- influence and possessions from the Banks of Caramnasa to the further extremity of the Coast of Coromandel -- a measure that must tend so greatly to the preservation of both settlements by the mutual support it will enable them at all times to give each other; and reflecting on the security it will bring to these Provinces by stopping up the road by which the Maratha have so often entered and distressed the inhabitants by destroying the - produce of the country; as well as the shock it will give to the strength of the Maratha Power whenever it - may be found necessary to separate so principal a -- member as Janooji who appears anxious to enter into an alliance defensive and offensive with the English. All these circumstances being only weighed we are ----- of opinion that the terms ought to be acceded to and - Agreed that the President be desired to write to Janooji

accordingly, as likewise to the Nabob requesting he will agree to the Treaty on his part.

Fort William,
10th February 1768.

IMPERIAL RECORDS,FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.POLITICAL PROCEED-

-INGS,SELECT COMMITTEE.VOL.14.P.77.

B.51

Treaty entered into by Nabob Syeful Dawlah with Mah Raja Janojee for the Cession of Orissa etc.

I Syeful Dowlah hereby agree and compact that --- on the condition of the Cession of Orissa the Fort of -- the Barrabutty and all appandages and of all pretensions to the Chouth and every other demand, I will pay the - annual sum of 16 lacks from the commencement of the - Year ..to whomsoever Mahraja Janooji shall constitute at Moorshedabad for the receival thereof and the said sum shall be regularly delivered in Moorshedabad --- annually agreeable to the statement:-

Agreement entered into by the Hon'ble Company as guarantees for the faithful performance of the above - Treaty:-

We hereby engage on the part of the English --- Company that we will acceded to the terms stipulated by the Nabob Saeful Dowlah, that we will give an - instrument under seal of the Court and the sign Manual of the Governor and Committee whereby we agree to -- guarantee the performance of the same and that we will be responsible for the payment of 16 lacks according to the statement - There will be no deviation from the - original spirit and meaning of these assurances and -

and in confirmation thereof we have given these two lines after the manner of an obligation.

Fort William,

10th February 1768.

IMPERIAL RECORDS.FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.POLITICAL -- PROCEEDINGS.SELECT COMMITTEE. VOL.14. P.88.

B.52.

To The President Hon'ble Charles Bourchier &
Gentlemen of the Secret Department, Fort St.George.

Para 3. To prevail on Ragnaut Raw of Janoji to attack Mhadeorao would be no easy task unless we engaged to -- support them with a body of our own troops, which the - present situation of our affairs will by no means enable us to do we have strong assurances from Janojee's Vakeel of - a speedy and successful issue to our negotiations with his master for the Cession of Cuttack. That once affected -- might possible open the door to our entering into an -- offensive and defensive Treaty with Janoji should the - situation of your affairs continue to make such a step - assentially necessary - But until the question of Chouth is finally settled we can by no means rely on any ----- assurances from that quarter.

Fort William,
10th August 1768.

Minutes of the Governor-
-General's Council.

IMPERIAL RECORDS,FOREIGN DEPARTMENT,POLITICAL PROCEEDINGS
SELECT COMMITTEE. VOL.14. P.658.

B.53.

Mah Ranojee's proposals for a treaty of peace and the Cession of Orissa.

1st. That Jaggernaut Pagoda and all the duties - collected from the pilgrims, shall remain to the Marathas- that a Governor on their part shall be placed there who shall have the supreme authority; and the villages lands ~~xtex~~ etc. which have been formerly allowed for the support of the Brahmins and place shall be still continued to -- them.

2nd. In case of necessity advances of the stipulat--ed sums to be made to the amount of two or three years as also to be assisted with our troops,artillery etc.when they may be wanted. If the English shall have occasion - they are to be assisted with 20 to 25000 horse for which 20 lakhs or thereabouts are to be paid as Naulbundy(or money for.getting ready) and on their joining the army - are to receive 2 Rupees per Diem exclusive of an allowance suitable to the rank of the chief who commands them. This was an article with the Nawab Ali Vardi Khan.

3rd. Ali Vardi Khan besides the 16 lacks of rupees now agreed to be paid gave also elephants, fine cloths, jewels etc. the same are now expected.

4th. A lack of rupees or thereabouts was allowed

for the mutasuddies of the collections and army, this is desired to be continued.

5th. A duly authenticated Treaty shall be -- procured from Europe under the Hands and Seal of - the Directors of the Company, that under the most solemn engagements we are become friends which is to be perpetual and never departed from to the latest posterity - Our enemies and friends to be common - and our assistance of each other mutual - That in lieu of Chouth and all demands 12 lacks per annum shall be paid for Bengal and Bahar and four lacks for Orissa now in the possession of the Marathas - since the time of Ali Vardi Khan - That this sum -- shall be faithfully paid every years at two payments in Murshidabad Siccas of the year, the payment to -- commence from the year that every succeeding ---- Governor shall accede to this Treaty and cause the money to be paid without delay or pretence - shall accede to Mr.Verelsts's engagements in the Deccan etc. and will act agreeably thereto - That this --- Treaty shall be sealed with the Company's seal and signed by the Chiefs thereof whose authority is -- supreme over the whole.

6th A similar treaty shall be executed by - Mr.Verelsh and witnessed by Syeful Dwalah Mahmud -

Riza Khan etc. and by the Principal Rajahs and Zemindars acceding to the same.

7th. That a similar treaty shall be given by the Nabob Syeful Daulah - engaging to pay -- 16 lacks of Rupees per annum from October 1765 and discharge the present amount after deducting the sums collected in Orissa during that time.

8th. There are many places bordering on Orissa such as the Ghaut of Bhermule,Sumbulpur,Khusum Ghur Bhudekund etc. the Rajahs of which have been long - subject to the Marattas, their chokeys etc. are not to be interrupted or removed nor are the English to go to Sumbulpur by water.

9th. The guns lying at Sumbulpur to be transport--ed at the English expence to Chatter Gher.

10th. Udepurry to bring the letters etc. duly signed with him.

11th. In the time of Meer Habbiz Alluh Cawn -- four lacks were agreed for, but 10 were collected. As friends therefore never can wish each others loss if - 4 lacks more be added to the present agreement or 3 - or even 2 but not less, it would tend to strengthen the bonds of amity.

12th. As large balances are due to Sumbhaji --- Gunnes Subahdar of Orissa for the maintenance of his troops etc. three years amount is desired to be advanc--ed for which credit will be given - But not less than 2 years will be accepted.

13th. Till the arrival of the League from Europe a treaty executed by Mr.Berelst and Syeful Daulah to be sent with the remittances by the hands of a person of confidence and character with Oudepurry Gosain.

14th. Udepurry Gosain is thoroughly acquainted - with the circumstances regarding Mr Habbib Alley Cawn and his Naib Mirza Muhomad Saheb, he can acquaint -- Mr.Verelst with everything concerning them and matters may be adjusted accordingly.

Nagpur,
29th November 1768.

IMPERIAL RECORDS.FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.POLITICAL PROCEEDINGS

SELECT COMMITTEE, VOL.14, PP.653-5.

B.54.

(The Committee taking into consideration the late proposals of Janojee for the Cession of the Province of Orissa and having deliberated on such measures as appear to them most conducive to the interest of their Hon'ble - Employers to be taken previous to the entering into a -- Treaty with him are unanimously of opinion that the follow--ing proposals are the most likely to effect this end: and it is agreed that they be laid before the President and Council for their consideration pursuant to the late -- orders received from the Court of Directors) :-

Article 1st. For the preservation of the religious ceremonies annually performed by the pilgrims of Jaggenaut Pagoda a person may be allowed to reside there on behalf of Mahraja Janoji and another on the part of the Nabob, who - shall jointly collect the Customs at that place and bring the amount so collected as the revenues of Orissa as a -- part thereof - That in case of misbehaviour in the Maratha Resident he shall be liable to punishment from and account--able to such person or persons as may be appointed by the Nabob to the Government of that part; and shall even if - judged necessary be removed from his office when some other resident may be appointed by Janoji, who must at all times be accountable as before specified to the Nabob's Government. All villages and lands formerly granted for the support of

the Brahmins etc. may be continued them.

2nd. That payments of the sum stipulated by the Treaty shall be made as the State of the Nabob's -- Treasury will admit of it _ That the Nabob may agree to grant Janoji the assistance of the English troops living under his Government when required by them, unless they should be wanted for the Defence of these provinces or the possessions of our Allies - Most of the troops of Janoji shall be sent for to the Nabob's assistance whenever he may require them and that - extraordinery expences incurred by the respective -- troops shall be defrayed by the party in whose cause they may be engaged.

The Committee are of opinion that the clause relative to Janoji's being promised the assistance of the English Troops is absolutely necessary to be insert- -ed in a treaty with him in order to induce him the - more readily to accept the Nabob's proposals and to - avoid a delay which must be occasioned if he should - insist upon the article being inserted - And they do not conceive it can be attended with the least, ~~xxxx~~ ~~xx~~ risk or inconvenience to the Company's affairs in India since it reserves to them the Powers of refusing such assistance by pleading the security of their own - possessions or those of their allies.

3rd. That the customery presents of elephants -- cloths etc. may be agreed to provide a suitable compli-ment may be returned by Janoji to the Nabob.

4th. By the account delivered in to the Committee of the 4th Article of Janoji's proposals by Oudy Pury Poury Gosain his Vakeel it appears that one lack of - rupees was formerly given to Janojee's servants on the settling of the Chouth and the collections of Orissa in consideration of their being employed on those services, but the Committee are of opinion that this proposal --- should not be acceded to; and that only the sum of --- 16 lakhs of rupees be tendered in the proposals transmit--ted to Janoji, the 10th February shall be allowed in - lieu of all demands whatever.

5th. The President and Council being fully invested with Power to enter into any treaties whatsoever the - Committee are of opinion that the present treaty if -- concluded shall be entered into by the Nabob and his - Ministers with Janoji and guaranteed in the most solemn manner by the President and Council under their signatures and the Great Seal of the Company - That in lieu of -- Chouth etc. 12 lacks shall be faithfully paid for Bengal and Bahar and 4 for Orissa every year at two payments in Moorshedabad as may be most convenient to the treasury -

to such person or persons as may by Janoji be duly authorized to receive those sums and that the payment of the foregoing sums shall commence from the first day of October 1765.

6th. The 6th and 7th Articles of Janoji's propo-sals are replied to in the preceding article.

7th. Orissa should be ceded by the Nabob in as full and ample a manner as it was ceded by Ali Vardy Cawn to the Marathas and Janoji should be told that as we are now entering into a league of the perpetual friendship it is expected he will consider those ---- places mentioned in the 8th article of his proposals as belonging to that province though they should not have been immediately dependent on any Subah of ---- Bengal - That he should consider them as places that may be convenient for the lodgement of a part of our forces for the security of the province; and that by being thus situated we shall have it more effectually in our power to confirm the bonds of friendship between us should any power hereafter attempt to disturb the ~~tranquix~~ tranquillity of his possessions or our own.

8th. Upon a dissenssion with Oudepury Gosain of the 9th article proposed by Janoji it is found to be not a point insisted upon.

9th. The Committee would prppose that a Company servant should accompany Oudy Purry Gosain to Nagpur - Janoji's Capital with a Treaty executed by the Nabob - and guaranteed by the President and Council in order ~~to~~ that no delay be occasioned in taking possession of the Province of Orissa should Janoji acceded to the terms specified in this said Treaty.

10th. The eleventh article is fully answered by our reply to the 4th article of these proposals.

11th. The 12th article is ~~p~~ replied in the 2nd - article of these proposals.

12th. Twelve lacks of Rupees may be remitted by bills with the person who may be appointed to take -- possession of Cuttack after the treaty is finally --- conoluded for the first payment.

13th. As Janoji has consented that the amount of the revenues of Orissa from the 1st October 1765 shall be duly brought to the Nabobs credit, it is proposed that he shall allow a strict scrutiny to be made into the --- accounts of the collections in order that the actual -- receipts and necessary disbursements since the Company's acquisition of the Dewani be ascertained in as accurate a manner as possible for the satisfaction of both parties.

The Committee cannot conclude the subject ---

without giving it as their unanimous opinion that -- the advantages which may in time result to their - Hon'ble employers from a Treaty thus entered into with Janoji will amply compensate for the very large sum of money which must at first be paid out of their Treasury for the arrears demanded by that Chief since the Company took possession of the Dewani - For --- besides the reasons before enumerated many others -- may be added in the support of such a measure.

Fort William,

13th December 1768.

IMPERIAL RECORDS,FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.POLITICAL PROCEED-

-INGS, SELECT COMMITTEE.VOL.14.PP.691-5.

B.55.

To Charles Bourchier & Council,
Fort St.George.

Sirs,

We have nefore informed you Gentlemen that our principal object in bringing matters to as speedy a -- conclusion as possible with Janojēe was to divert ---- Mahadevrao from entering the Carnatic to the assistance - of Hyder Ali -The advices lately transmitted to us from - Col.Smith copies of which we have the pleasure to enclose for your information have for the present relieved us from apprehensions in that quarter; since we fünd he has direct- -ed his operations towards the province of Berar and seems seriously intent on crushing the power and influence of - Janoji - We therefore think highly important at this ---- junction to continue our negotiations with this Chief ---- as his fate must actually be decided long ere any of our - forces could reach him, even should we think it necessary as a check on Mahdeorao's growing power to march our troops to his assistance. If Mahdeo Rao should prove unsuccessful in his attempt and should resume his prime intentions of - entering the Carnatic, it will then be time enough to think seriously of a league with Janoji.

Fort William,
21st March 1769.

Minutes of the Governor-General's Council.

IMPERIAL RECORDS,FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.POLITICAL PROCEEDINGS SELECT COMMITTEE,21st March 1769.VOL.16,P.179.

B.56.

To,

Col.Richard Smith,

Commander-in-Chief.

Sir,

It is with concern we perceive the very great ascendancy which Mahdevrao has obtained on Janoji and the many dangers seem to threaten the latter from the considerable force brought against him - However - inclined we might be to grant him assistance in his - present distress, in the hope of more easily effecting a cession on his part of the province of Orissa, the - very critical and distressful situation of the Company's affairs on the coast call for aloud of our warmest - support and compels us for the present to suspend our - negotiations with Janoji; that we may be better able to relieve the distress of the Madras Administration.

Fort William,
21st March 1769.

Minutes of the Governor-
-General's Council.

IMPERIAL RECORDS,FOREIGN DEPARTMENT,POLITICAL PROCEEDINGS

SELECT COMMITTEE, 21st March 1769,VOL.16,P.185.

APPENDIX C.

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GENEALOGICAL TREE OF THE NAGPUR BHONSLES.

Mudhoji

Bapuji — Bimbaji — Rughuji I, Sena Sahib Subah, died 1755 A.D.

Parsoji I, Sena Sahib Subah, died about 1715 A.D.

Kanhoji, Sena Sahib Subah, ousted about 1734 A.D.

Sabaji

Janoji, Sena Sahib Subah, died 1772 A.D.

Mudhoji, died 1788 A.D.

Bimbaji, died 1787 A.D.

Sabaji, died 1775 A.D.

Rughuji II, Sena Sahib Subah, adopted by Janoji, died 1816 A.D.

Khandoji (Chimnaji Bapu), adopted by Bimbaji, died 1789 A.D.

Vyankoji (Manya Bapu or Nana Sahib), died 1811 A.D.

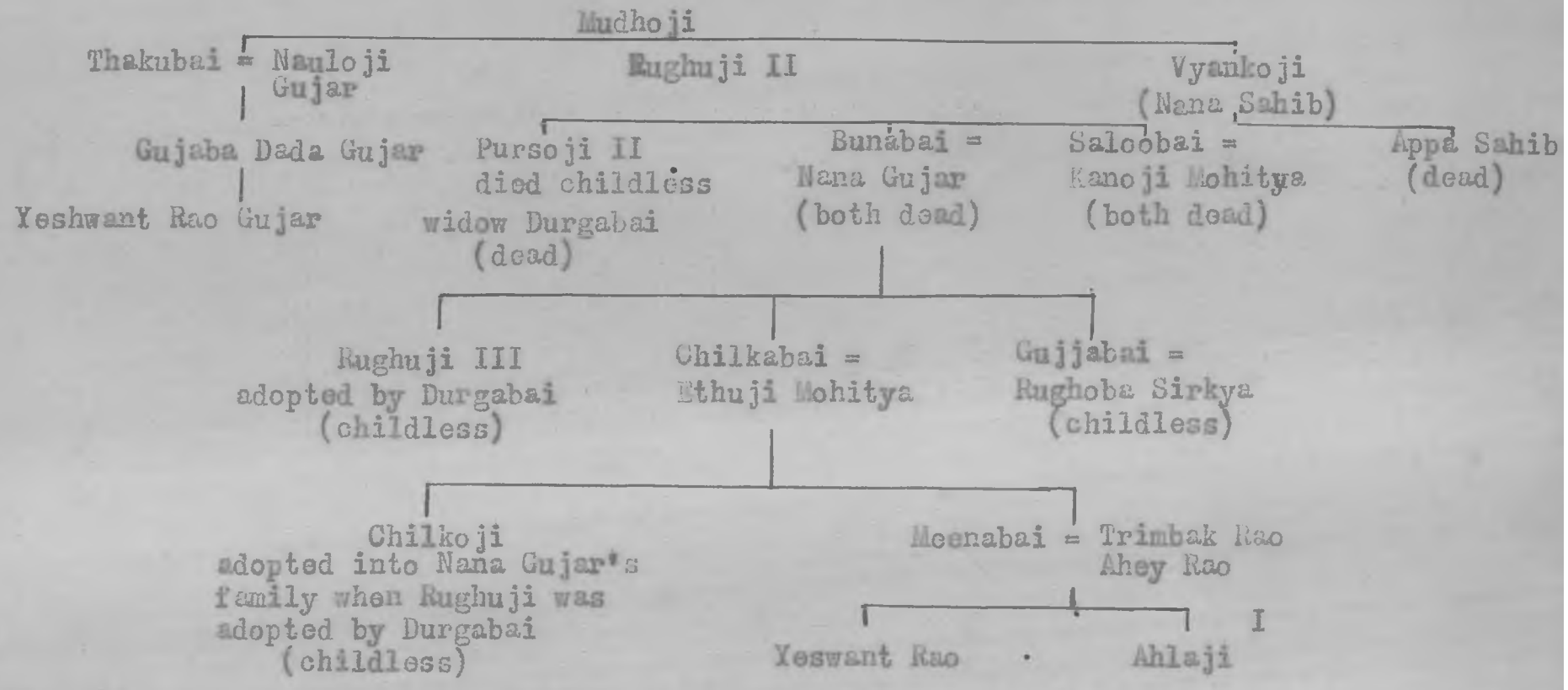
Thakubai = Nauloji Gujar

Parsoji II, Sena Sahib Subah, died 1817 A.D.

Mudhoji (Appa Sahib), ousted 1818, died 1840 A.D. I

I. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century. (Appendix A.)

GENEALOGICAL TREE OF THE NAGPUR BHONSLES.


Mudhoji
Thakubai = Nauloji Gujar
Rughuji II
Vyankoji (Nana Sahib)
Gujaba Dada Gujar
Pursoji II died childless widow Durgabai (dead)
Bunabai = Nana Gujar (both dead)
Salobai = Kanoji Mohitya (both dead)
Appa Sahib (dead)
Yeshwant Rao Gujar
Rughuji III adopted by Durgabai (childless)
Chilkabai = Ethuji Mohitya
Gujjabai = Rughoba Sirkya (childless)
Chilkoji adopted into Nana Gujar's family when Rughuji was adopted by Durgabai (childless)
Meenabai = Trimbak Rao Ahey Rao
Yeswant Rao
Ahlaji

I. Resident C.G.Mansel, Letter of the 14th December 1853.

APPENDIX D.

TREATY WITH THE "RAJA OF BERAR" IN 1781 A.D.

Whereas a friendship is firmly established betwixt Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsle and the English, the following -- articles are accordingly settled by Sena Bahadur through ---- Rajaram Pandit :-

1st. The Raja Sena Bahadur shall send 2,000 good and effective horse along with Colonel Pearse to assist the English in the war against Hyder Naik; that the officer commanding them shall act under the orders of the said Colonel, or the officer who shall command the Bengal troops in the Carnatic; and that they shall receive from the officer who shall command the --- Bengal troops in the Carnatic an allowance for their support at the rate which hath been settled in a separate paper by the -- Governor-General and Council and Rajaram Pandit, month by month, in the same proportion as the English troops shall receive their pay.

2nd. That the army of Raja Sena Bahadur will immediately leave Orissa and march in an expedition against Garha-Mandla; let the Governor-General and Council of the English, from a - regard to the friendship which subsists betwixt the family of Bhonsle and the English, give orders that an English officer with a body of the troops, now stationed in Hindostan, may march from that quarter to assist the Raja in the above-mentioned expedition.

and, having reduced Garha-Mandla, establish immediately the Raja's garrisons there.

3rd. That in order that the friendship betwixt the family of Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsle and the English may daily be strengthened and augmented, let the Governor-General and Council for the present send a trusty person to Nagpur; and hereafter the Diwan, Diwakar Pandit, will come from that place and have an interview with the Governor-General when, with their mutual advice and approbation, the desires and demands of both parties will be adjusted and settled.

4th. That if it should happen from particular circumstances that an interview betwixt Diwakar Pandit and the Governor-General cannot take place, in that case the desires and demands of both parties may be settled at Nagpur by the intervention of a trusy person; and the bonds of friendship shall be so firmly established betwixt the family of Bhonsle and the English that no infraction or injury can ever by any means happen to them.

Account of the monthly expense of the troops to be sent along with Colonel Pearse.

Two thousand Sawars or horse, at Rs 50,000 per month for each 1,000 making altogether one lakh of rupees per month. Dated 8th Rabi-us-Sani, in the 22nd year of the Reign.

The said allowance shall commence from the time of

the troops leaving Cuttack; and when they shall have - finished the service and, having received their dismissal from the Commander of the English troops, they shall return to their own country, their pay shall be continued according to the number of manzils, or day's journeys, which they may be from the place of their dismission to the city of ---- Cuttack.@

@ Aitchison's Treaties. I, pp. 414-5

TREATY OF DEOGAON IN 1803 A.D.

To The Governor-General, Camp at Ellichpur, 17th December 1803.

My Lord, - I have the honour to enclose the English, Maratha, and Persian copies of a treaty of peace which I have this day concluded with Yeshwant Rao Ramchandra, the Vakil of the Raja of Berar. I have made the treaty in the name of the British -- government and its allies generally, and have engaged that it shall be ratified by Your Excellency only. The reasons for omit--ting to name the allies in the treaty and to engage that they shall ratify it will become sufficiently obvious when the -- character and conduct of the government of these allies are -- recollected. It will remain with Your Excellency to give such orders as you may think proper to the Residents at the different Darbars to obtain the assent of the allies to this treaty. But I should imagine that the Raja of Berar will be satisfied with Your Excellency's ratification.

The cessions under the treaty are made to the British government and its allies; and I have drawn it in this manner in order that Your Excellency may have an opportunity of disposing of them hereafter in such manner as you may think proper. As soon as the Raja shall ratify the treaty, I propose to desire the officers of the Subah of the Deccan to take charge of the countries ceded

in this quarter; but I shall request the Resident at -- Hyderabad to apprize his Highness's ministers that it must be considered only a temporary arrangement; and that all the acquisitions must be liable to be disposed of hereafter, when peace shall be made with all the powers engaged in the war.

I wished to be able to define more accurately the bounds of the cession of the province of Cuttack; but I have no information upon the subject. Lieut.-Colonel Harcourt -- stated his opinion that it would be convenient if the ---- districts of Sonpur and Baud were ceded besides Cuttack; and Mr. Melville his, that it would be convenient to add to the province of Cuttack countries which would have joined the northern Sarkars with the province of Bundelkhand. But upon reference to the map, which is all the information that I could procure, I found that even the first would have -- increased the extent of the demand, on that side, to such a degree as to make it necessary to give up part of what I demanded on this side; or to risk the conclusion of the -- treaty altogether. I learn also, by a late letter from -- Lieut.-Colonel Harcourt, that he has commenced negotiations with the Rajas of Sonpur and Baud; and, if he should conclude them by treaties, those districts will be added to the --- Company's territories under the 10th article of the treaty of peace. If he should not, it is certain that the Company will not have for Cuttack the boundary for which Lieut-Colonel Harcourt wished; but I do not doubt but that that province

will have a very good boundary.

By the 3rd article, the Company and their allies gain, on this side, the whole province of Berar; and the frontier of the Subah of the Deccan will be carried forward to the Wardha river. The countries thus ceded are old -- possessions of the Subah of the Deccan, the revenues of which have been collected by him and the Raja of Berar in different proportions at different times. When the latter was admitted to a participation of them he received --- one-fifth, afterwards a fourth, then half by treaty and, latterly, four-fifths by exaction and violence. It appear--ed to me to be an object of greater importance to get rid of the Raja of Berar entirely from this fine country than to secure an additional barrier for Cuttack. The revenues of Berar, on this side of the Wardha, are computed to amount to about one crore of rupees. The Raja had appropriated - entirely to himself countries the revenues of which are com--puted to have been ten lakhs of rupees; and the remainder, under different treaties, was to be divided equally between him and the Subah of the Deccan. However, I have reason to believe, from the conferences during the negotiations, that the Raja of Berar never received more than thirty lakhs as his share of the countries on this side of the Wardha. Terri--tory of this value was a great object to gain in this quar--ter, considering the probable circumstances of the peace with Sindia; but, whatever may be real value of the acquisition,

a great object is gained by defining the frontier of the Raja towards the Subah of the Deccan and by his renuncia-tion of all claims, of every description, not only on the countries ceded but on the other territories of the Subah. In the course of the conferences in the negotiation, the minutes of which I shall have the honour ~~to~~ of transmitting as soon as they can be copied, the Raja's minister declared repeatedly, and I have reason to believe with some truth, that the demands made were of the finest and most valuable parts of his territory.

By the 4th article I have agreed that the Raja shall have possession of the forts of Narnala and Gawilgarh. In fact, these forts are of greater importance to the power which remains in possession of the mountains than to that which possess the plains. Without them the Raja could not have exercised the powers of his government over the Gondwana Rajas in those mountains, a race of people who, above all others, require restraint; and to have given them to the Subah of the Deccan would have added nothing to His Highness's power.

I consented to the 5th article, because the ---- districts in the plains immediately under the hills will always be liable to the depredations of the inhabitants of the hills. The loss to the Subah's government will be but trifling in comparison with that which it would incur if the Raja were not interested, as he will now be, to restrain the

incursions of the hill people into the plains.

The 7th article provides that the Honourable - Company are to arbitrate between the Raja and the Subah of the Deccan and the Peshwa. The Raja's minister was desirous that I should consent to confirm all grants and treaties made heretofore by those powers; but I refused this, on the ground that I could not consent to anything of which I had no knowledge. I then proposed the mediation and arbitration of the British government and its justice, as the best security the Raja could have for his claims - upon the Subah of the Deccan and the Peshwa; which proposal was accepted. The territory which the Raja wished to secure by this demand was the province of Garha-Mandla, of which he ought to collect the revenues in participation with the -- Peshwa; but I imagine that he has lately seized the whole for his own use. At all events, it appears to me to be an important point gained, and highly honourable to the charac--ter of the British government, that even its enemies are willing to appeal to its justice against the demands of its allies.

There was no objection on the part of the Raja's minister to the 8th or 9th article of the treaty. The last clause was added to the 8th by his desire, after the treaty had been drawn up.

The 10th article is one of considerable importance.

The Raja's minister appeared to feel the full extent of the engagements to which it bound the Raja and expressed the greatest uneasiness upon the subject. He said that, after ceding Berar and Cuttack, the Raja had no territories excepting what he had conquered from the Zamindars,Rajas, etc.; and that by this article he might be bound to give up the whole of his territories. I told him that, whatever might be the consequence, the article was indispensable and must be agreed to; that peace would have not have been agreed to, if the British government had wished for the - destruction of the Raja's State; and that it certainly was not intended that the article should apply to more cases - than were absolutcly necessary to preserve the good faith of the British government; and I promised him that the -- British government would apply it to as few cases as --- possible, consistently with an adherence to good faith.The Vakil was satisfied with this assurance; which I requested him to convey to the Raja, as I think it probable that this article will be that to which his Darbar will have the --- strongest objections.

I had demanded an hostage for the performance of the 11th article of the treaty; but, upon considering all - the circumstances of the case, it appeared to me that the best security the British government could have would be - its strength and continued success; and I had, therefore, determined not to persist in that demand. In giving his -

answer upon it, the Vakil said that the Raja would send to me whomever I pleased, excepting his brother, his son or his nephew, who are the only persons whose detention in my camp might, possibly, be a security against his ---- hostility. It appeared to me that he would not consent - to send either of those persons; and the presence of any other would certainly have been useless. Upon the whole, therefore, I thought it best not to persist in a demand with which he would not comply and which might have risked the whole treaty.

I hope that Your Excellency will approve of, and ratify, this treaty. It appears to me to provide for the essential points, at the same time that it leaves the Raja's government in existence and strength. I should have demanded a sum of money, but I think there is every reason to believe that the Raja of Berar is as poor as the other Maratha Chieftains. I have written to Mr.Webbe to inform him that I have signed this treaty and to request him to prepare to set out for Nagpur as soon as possible. In the meantime,.I propose to send the Hon'ble M.Elphinstone to the Raja, to act as Resident till the arrival of Mr.Webbe. In case Your Excellency should ratify the treaty, I request that the ratification may be sent to the Resident at --- Hyderabad, to be forwarded either to Mr.Elphinstone or me, according to circumstances; as I might be at a great -- distance and the ratification might not reach the Raja in

the time specified. Upon the occasion of mentioning -- Mr.Elphinstone, it is but justice to that gentleman to inform Your Excellency that I have received the greatest assistance from him since he has been with me. He is well versed in the languages, has experience and a knowledge of the interests of the Maratha powers and their relations with each other and with the British government and its allies. He has been present in all the actions which have been fought in this quarter during the war and at all -- the sieges; he is acquainted with every transaction that has taken place and with my sentiments upon all subjects. I,therefore, take the liberty of recommending him to Your Excellency.

I have the honour to be etc., Arthur Wellesley.@

@ Wellington's Despatches, II, pp.591-5.

TREATY of PEACE between the HONOURABLE EAST INDIA COMPANY and their ALLIES, on the one part, and SENA SAHEB -- SUBHA RAGHOJI BHONSLE, on the other, settled by MAJOR-GENERAL WELLESLEY on the part of the HONOURABLE --- COMPANY and their ALLIES, and by YESHWANT RAO RAMCHANDRA on the part of SENA SAHEB SUBHA RAGHOJI BHONSLE; who have each communicated to the other their full powers,- 1803.

Article 1. - There shall be perpetual peace and friendship between the Honourable Company and their allies, on the one part, and the Sena Saheb Subha Raghoji Bhonsle, on the other.

Article 1. - Sena Saheb Subha Raghoji Bhonsle cedes to the Honourable Company and the allies, in perpetual sovereignty, the province of Cuttack, including the port and district of Balasore.

Article 3.- He likewise cedes to the Honourable Company and their allies, in perpetual sovereignty, all the territories of which he has collected the revenues in participation with - the Subah of the Deccan, and those of which he may have -- possession which are to the westward of the river Wardha.

Article 4. - It is agreed that the frontier of Sena Saheb

Subah towards the territories of His Highness the Subah of the Deccan shall be formed to the west by the river Wardha from its issue from the Injardy hills to its junction with the Godavari. The hills on which are the forts of Narnala and Gawilgarh are to be in possession of Sena Saheb Subah; and everything south of those hills and to the west of the river Wardha is to belong to the British government and their allies.

Article 5. - Districts amounting to four lakhs of -- rupees per annum contiguous to, and to the south of, the forts of Narnala and Gawilgarh, are to be given owns over - to Sena Saheb Subah. Those districts are to be fixed upon by Major General Wellesley and delivered over to Sena Saheb Subha at the same time with the forts.

Article 6. - Sena Saheb Subha for himself, his heirs and successors entirely renounces all claims of every descrip- -tion on the territories of the British government and their allies, ceded by the 2nd,3rd and 4th articles, and on all the territories of His Highness the Subah of the Deccan.

Article 7. - The Honourable Company engage that they will mediate and arbitrate, according to the principles of justice, any disputes or differences that may now exist,or may hereafter arise, between the Honourable Company's allies, Sikandar Jah Bahadur, his heirs and successors and Rao Pandit Pradhan,his heirs and successors,respectively, and Sena Saheb Subha.

Article 8. - Sena Saheb Subha engages never to take, r retain, in his service any Frenchman, or the subject of ny other European or American power, the government of which ay be at war with the British government, or any British -- ubject, whether European or India, without the consent of he British government. The Honourable Company engage, on heir part, that they will not give aid or countenance to any iscontented relations, Rajas, Zamindars or other subjects of ena Saheb Subha who may fly from, or rebel against, his -- uthority.

Article 9. - In order to secure and improve the relations f amity and peace hereby established between the governments, t is agreed that accredited Ministers from each shall reside t th Court of the other.

Article 10. - Certain treaties have been made by the- British government with feudatories of Sena Saheb Subha. These treaties are to be confirmed. Lists of the persons with whom such reaties have been made will be given to Sena Saheb Subha when - this treaty will be ratified by His Excellency the Governor- General in Council.[2]

Article 11. - Sena Saheb Subha hereby renounces for himself, his heirs and successors all adherence to the confederacy formed by him and Daulat Rao Sindia and other Maratha Chiefs, to attack

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[2] Vide Treaties with Tributary and Feudatory States of Orissa, Aitchison's Treaties, Vol.I,Part III. The Raja manifested the - utmost reluctance to ratify this clause, and it was only under - the threat of renewed hostilities that he consented to sign the lists.

the Honourable Company and their allies. He engages not to assist those Chiefs if the war with them should still continue.

Article 12. - This Treaty of Peace is to be ratified by Sena Saheb Subha within eight days from this time and the ratification is to be delivered to Major-General Wellesley; at which time the orders for the cession of the ceded territories are to be delivered and the troops are to be withdraw. Major-General Wellesley engages that the treaty shall be ratified by His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor-General in Council and that the ratification shall be delivered in two months from this date.

Done in Camp at Deogaon, this 17th December 1803, answering to the 2nd Ramzan 1213 Fasli. Ratified by the Governor-General and Council on the 9th January 1804.

@Aitchison's Treaties, I, pp, 415-7

THE NAGPUR BHONSLES.

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D.R.CONTRACTOR.

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THIS THESIS SUBMITTED TO THE

UNIVERSITY OF BOMBAY

MARCH 1934.

CHAPTER I.

INTERNAL HISTORY.

GOVERNMENT & COURT OF NAGPUR.

The Government of Nagpur under the Marathas, began with the rule of Rughuji the Great. Even under him it was a loose and disjointed affair, mostly of the feudal type. Rughuji was essentially a military ruler, and so was able to exact his dues, and respect to his authority, with the help of his efficient army. With the succession to the Musnud of his son Janoji, the Government of the Nagpur Territories, was brought under better and more -- homogeneous management. Raja Janoji with the help of able ministers, and a staff of subordinate officials, made - efforts to centralise the powers of the ruler into his - hands. He tried to settle, as many of the districts as he could bring under his control. Into distant territories, he sent out Subahdars, who had authorities of the feudal lords. The mismanagement and corruption in these distant provinces, was at times beyond the control of the Raja. Otherwise wherever he was able to enforce his authority, he strictly meted out punishment, for the better management of the province in the future, and for the regular payment of the revenues from the same.

Though Janoji was never able to gather, a revenue as large as his father, the money that came regularly into his coffers, was from a systematic management of the country.

It is extremely likely, that the revenue of a crore of rupees gathered by Rughuji I was attained by addition of plundering raids and exactions with his predatory army.

The system of Government followed by Janoji was based on the old forms existing during the Gond, Rajput and Muhomedan rule of these districts. Janoji's succes--sors continued the same methods, perfecting some of them.

When the first Rughuji established his Court at Nagpur his immediate subordinate officials were as --- follows: The Muzumdar or Dewan who was the head of all his government departments, and was also the Raja's -- constant adviser and follower. The next important officer was the Furnavis. This servant was originally appointed - by the Raja of Satara to keep an account of the Chouth collection of Berar. But later he performed also the -- office duties of the Accountant General for the receipts and disbursements of Rughuji's revenues and expenses. All Sunnuds, orders and grants on the revenue, proceeded from his office. To assist him subordinate Furnavises were - appointed and sent out as deputies to the various ---- districts.[1] The officer who performed the same duties for the Gond Raja according to the Partition Treaty with -- Rughuji was called the Pritee. During the reign of Rughuji

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.147-48.

Rughuji I the Pritee, kept a similar type of accounts, as that kept by the Furnavis, and also countersigned and sealed all revenue papers and grants. The corresponding assistants to the Pritee for the management in the country, were called Hoordars. They performed the similar duties in their smaller divisions. During the reign of Janoji, the Raja transferred the office of the Pritee to his own -- Cutcherry, which some years afterwards became only a --- office in name. The functions of the Hoordars however - continued till the middle of the nineteenth Century in all those districts where the Gond Raja enjoyed a share of the revenue.[1]

The officer next to the Furnavis was the -- Wurar Pandia. The Wurar Pandia also had assistants all over the country. His duty was to manage the Lugwan --- accounts, which consisted of the record of the actual state of cultivation, the area of the occupied land and the --- respective rents for the same. The office of the Wurar Pandia, was only a continuation of the old form existing during the Gond rule.

Raja Rughuji's other officers were the ---- Chitnavis,the Jamdar, the Siccanavis and the Munshi. The Chitnavis was his general secretary who answered all orders, grants and letters of the Government. The Jamdar was the Raja's treasurer and the supervisor of his wardrobe and

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.148.

jewel office. The Siccanavis was the Mint officer and the Munshi was the secretary for the Persian Correspondence.[1]

The principal bankers of the city, had some -- voice in the Government of the country according to their wealth and standing. The leading banker was called the -- Nuggur Naik, having a general authority over the mercantile and banking community. He was the instrument by which the Raja secured loans, and arranged other financial operations.[2] It was the custom of the Nagpur State, to give a hereditary right to all its principal officers. Even if the officer loses the consideration and perquisites which means that he is replaced by another servant in the same office, he is not deprived of the designation nor of the share of the regulat--ed allowances, pertaining to that office. Besides the --- performance of their official duties, most of these servants had a share in the deliberations, on the general questions of external and internal policy in the Raja's Councils, according to, as the Raja manifested a desire for their - opinions, or support of their experiences.[3]

It often happened, that the duties of the Dewan, were performed by an officer in charge of quite a different function of the government. Devaji Punt Cherghore, who was only Janoji's Munshi performed the offices of the Dewan as....

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories. pp.148-49.
2. Ibid. p.149.
3. Ibid. pp.149-50.

well as his usual duties.[1] In like manner Bhuwani Pundit and his son Sreedhur Pundit, carried on the duties of the Dewan and the secretary for foreign affairs.[2] Another -- example was that of Bhuwani Kalu the Bakshi, who was both the secretary for military affairs and the Dewan.[3] Later Bhuwani Kalu who retained the title of the Dewan and its emoluments, was hardly ever consulted on important matters which became the topic of discussions, between the Raja - and his new favourites. The Bhonsles were usually arbitrary rulers. Though they consulted, and at times followed the advice of the ministers, they usually adopted measures, or followed a political policy, according to the dictates of their own nature.

During the reigns of Raghuji and Janoji and also during the Regency of Mudhoji, most of the Rajas -- officials split up between those who favoured the policy of a dependence on the Peshwa, and those who encouraged the right of the Bhonsles to be independent rulers. --- According as the exigency demanded the Raja followed their opinions and varied his favours in like manner. With the introduction of British influence after the Treaty of -- Deogaon the ministers in the government of Raghuji II --

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1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, pp.52 & 65
2. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.150.
   Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.111.
3. Ibid, p.93.

formed into two parties. Sreedhur Pundit with Juswunt Rao Ramchunder and Jykison Pundit favoured the British connection, whilst Naroba Chitnavis and others sponsored an allegiance under the Peshwa, which was supposed to foster the old principles of the Maratha Confederacy.[1] But the political questions were not the only means, by which the officers secured the Raja's favour. It depended on the characteristics of the individual on the Musnud of Nagpur. In the case of Raghuji II, many an inconsequent person, obtained his favour and rose to superior station in life, because he pandered to the Raja's love of wealth and showed ways and means of gathering it.[2] Similarly -- during the short reign of Appa Sahib, men who could -- never have risen to any distinction, under a wise and -- regular order of rule, rose to prominence, because of the momentary caprice of the Raja.[3]

Besides the above superior officers of the State, the government employed inferior servants, whose duties were of lesser importance. The Khasgee Walla managed the Raja's private revenue and trade, and controlled his household - expenses. There was a Chief of the Shagird Pesha, who -- supervised the internal economy of the palace. Besides --

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.150.
2. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, pp.94-95 & 111.
3. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.150.

these, the departments of the wardrobe, the jewel office, the Kothee or magazine of grain etc, of the elephants and camels, of buildings aqueducts etc. each had an officer in charge. There was also a Naik or -- Chief for the Harkaras or spies, who was besides being in charge of the intelligence department, had establish_ -ments in every Purgannah, by which he checked the -- mismanagement and corruption of the Kumaishdars.[1]

As regards the emoluments whihh the ministers and other officers received, were not nominally high. They were paid partly in cash, partly in villages -- granted rent free, and partly in dues on appointments in their departments, with percentages on the revenues of the country. Each had the sanction, to keep a fixed number of horse, at certain rates of pay and an elephant or two were granted them, according to their position in the government. They also received the payments for their subordinates. Those of the officers who conducted ---- foreign business, often held handsome Jagirs and pensions from the other Indian Governments. These officers had - another privilege, that of making money by traffic.[3] Rughuji II himself, had later set the example, by ----- introducing monopolies in which he traded, at the expense of the Government revenue and at the sacrifice of the -- interests of the industrious classes of his subjects.[2]

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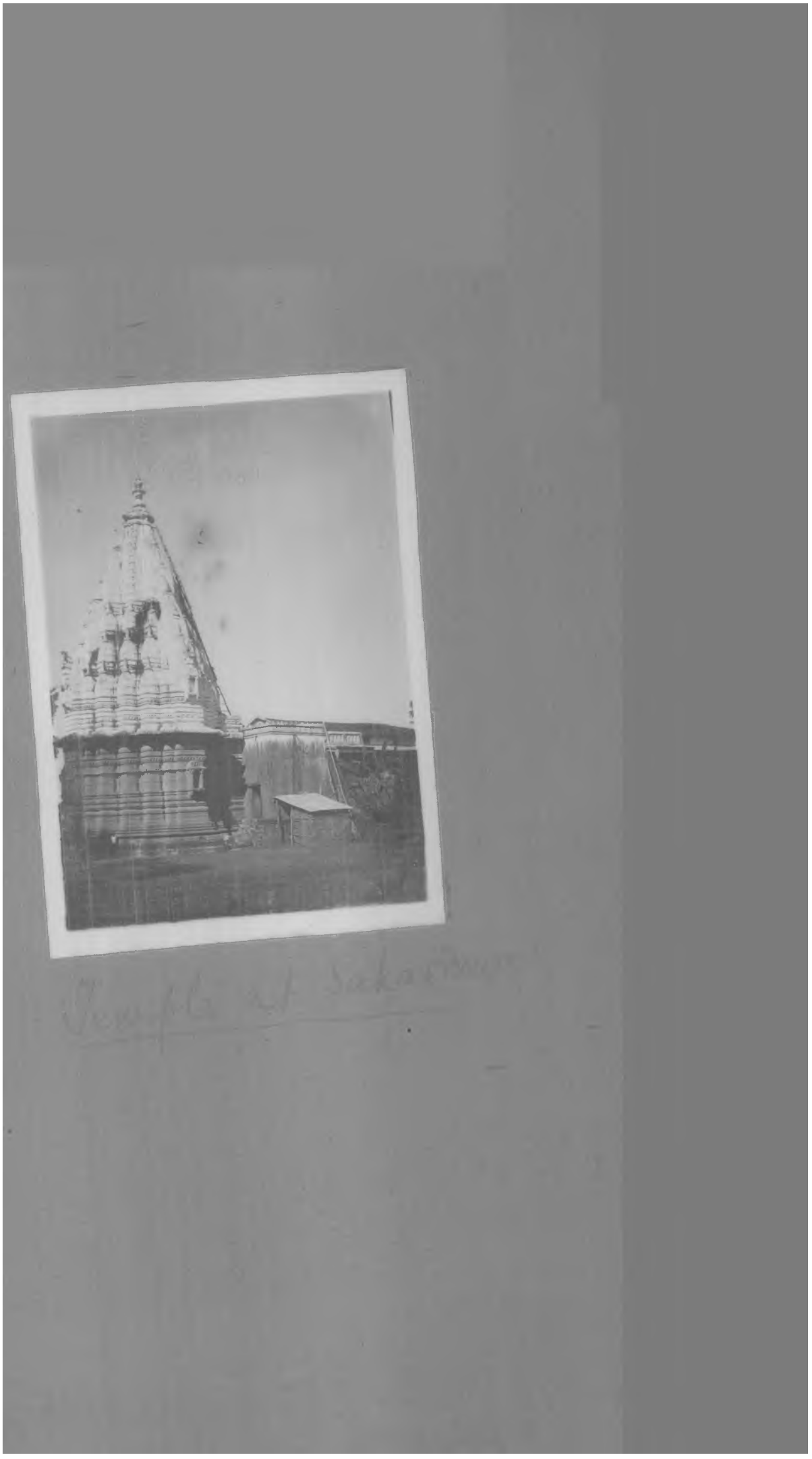
1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories. pp.150-51.
2. Ibid, p.154.
3. Ibid.



The ministers could similarly monopolise certain articles and trade in them under the remission of duties and with privileges totally subversive of the tenets of free trade.[1]

COURT OF NAGPUR.

During the rule of the early Bhonsle Kings, most of the business of the Nagpur Government, was despatched at the Raja's Durbar. The various ministers of the different departments or their deputies, came to the Raja's Court - daily to discuss important matters, and get his sanction for the exercise of their duty. The Raja did not hold his - Court on the days of fasts, or of festivals. Nevertheless in the smallest to the greatest affairs, if the minister thought it necessary to consult the Raja, he could be -- accessible, even when not sitting in Durbar. During the -- greatest festivities, if the business of the government demanded the Rajs's attention, it was always acceded to.[2]

During these early stages of the Bhonsle rule, the Raja's Durbar was not an elaborate or a luxurious -- meeting. Raja Janoji for instance, held his Durbar every - morning and evening, on an open verandah of his palace, looking on the street. His intention was to be visible to his people, and show that he was accessible to their

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories. p.154.

2. Ibid, p.152.

personal calls, for justice and redress from injuries received. The Raja always sat on his Musnud, raised of cushions and pillows, with his sword and shield kept -- before him. These instruments of a warlike prince, were later in disuse by his less military minded successors. Janoji broke up his Durbar by noon, when he went for his - meals and siesta. At three O'Clock in the afternoon after the Raja had inspected his arms, horses, elephants etc. he sat again in Durbar. Until sunset the business of the Durbar was carried on under his supervision, after which he retired. Often the ministers remained till a later -- hour, to complete the day's work.[1]

In respect of the etiquette and ceremonies of the Court of Nagpur, it was never intricate or pompous. The Raja who was usually dressed, like any of his courtiers, received almost any stranger of any rank as his equal. He rose and took the person's salute, and embraced him ---- afterwards. In some cases he even came out of the palace, with most of his principal officers of the Court, to welcome the new comer. Only on the days of great occasions, did the Raja dress in splendour and wore his family jewels. On the day of the Dussera festival, his pomp surpassed all the -- previous occasions.[2]

The Nagpur Durbar by the time of Rughuji II, had

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.153.

2. Ibid. pp.153-54.

attained some amount of luxury and splendour. The Raja sat on a throne in a magnificent apartment, surrounded by a selected few of his officers and ministers. The rest of his functionaries and nobility sat at a respectable distance, along the walls of the apartment. Unlike the business carried on by Janoji in his Durbar, the government work done by -- Rughuji, in his Court was very little. The Raja carried on a casual conversation with his select servants, on topics - of urgent moment, or otherwise listened to the singing of the dancing girls. Like his predecessors, Raja Rughuji was in hismanners and dress more like a private gentleman, than a sovereign. His courtiers behaved with him more like his friends, than his servants.[1]

THE ARMY OF THE BHONSLES.

The military establishment of the Bhonsles, was in the hands of the Surdufter, the Bukshee, the Pugnuvis, the Khasgee Walla and an Officer in charge of the Raja's - artillery. The Surdufter kept the army Estimates. The Bukshee who was the principal officer of the military department, supervised over the paymasters of the troops, and received - the general returns of the forces under employment. He had the facility of employing deputies under him, for the depart- -ment of the horse and the infantry. The Pugnavis was the -

1. T.E.Colebrooke, The Life of Colebrooke, pp.145-46.

the officer, who conducted the business of the Raja's Paga. The Khasgee Wall supervised besides his other functions, the expenses of the Paga as well as of the artillery.[1]

The principal army officers of the Bhonsles were the Bukshee; the Subahdars of provinces like that of Chhutt--eesgarh and Orissa, who had held high civil and military - powers; the Maratha Chiefs or Maunkurees of old families - holding high commands; and the Yukas or Yukandees who were single horsemen with high pay, born of good Hindu or Muhome--dan families and were attached to the person of the Raja or the member of the ruling family. Following these in rank came the Commandant of divisions of horse and infantry; the Risal--dars of horse; the Chiefs of the Paga or household troops and other petty Commanders of infantry and artillery.[2]

The army of the Bhonsles in the reign of the first Rughuji, was highly efficient and of a very powerful strength. It usually numbered over 50000 troops. It mostly consisted of cavalry, which was well-known in the Deccan, for its crack performances on the battle-field.[3] The method of warfare that this army followed, was according to the old Maratha manner - of the time of Shivaji. Though the standard of the Nagpur -- troops, did not decline during the early stages of Raja Janoji's rule, its prestige suffered a great setback, because of the - defeats, the Raja suffered at the hands of the Peshwa's army

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.151
2. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.42.
3. Ibid, p.28.

and against that of the Nizam for the unhappy political policy he followed, in regard to the Poona and the Hyderabad - Government.[1]

With some decline in its strength, the Bhonsle army suffered another drain on its powers, when the two -- Bhonsle brothers, Mudhoji and Sabaji fought against one -- another, after the death of Janoji. The eventual success of Mudhoji as the Regent at Nagpur, saw the state of the ---- Bhonsle army in really bad circumstances. Its number had - reduced, its pay had run in arrears, and its old efficiency had departed. Its decline can be judged when we read, that Mudhoji failed to drive away Ibrahim Beg Dhonsa who had come with a small army to punish the Bhonsle for Sabaji's death.[2] Even after a few years of rule, Mudhoji had not improved his army, because he learn that his forces achieved no success against small rulers like the Nawab of Bhopal and the Chief of Gurah Mundla.[3] From the account of Forster we find that Mudhoji's army consisted of 10800 regular troops, of which only 300 were sepoys awkwardly clothed, and ill-disciplined. He had an irregular body of infantry which was chiefly employ--ed in the various forts. Mudhoji's artillery was alike ill--conditioned and ill-served.[4]

It was during the early years of Rughuji II's rule,

1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century. p.28.
2. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, II, pp.67-68.
3. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.99.
4. Ibid. p.98.

that the Nagpur army again reached a certain of its old strength and prestige. Even as early as 1790 -- Rughuji had raised the 300 sepoys of Mudhoji's time to two battalions (about 1300 men) armed and equipped in the European fashion.[1] A few years afterwards his army became still better, because the Raja was able to --- conquer Gurah Mundla and capture Hoshangabad, Chauragarh and Sumbulpur.[2] By the time the Marathas were concerting ways and means, to thwart the growth of the British -- ascendancy in India, Raja Rughuji by his conquests and his military strength had won the recognition of being one of the few leading Maratha rulers of its time. In the year 1803, Rughuji's army was estimated at 25000 infantry (of which over 12000 were in regular battalions), 4000 Arabs and Pathans and about 18000 horse.[3] His field-arti--llery consisted of about 90 pieces of ordnance. Cole--brooke when he sent his estimates to the Governor -- General, did not speak very highly of the discipline and efficiency of the Nagpur army, except in the case of the cavalry which he considered the best part of the Bhonsle's military establishment.[4] The British envoy's estimate was not quite just. He compared the Nagpur troops, with the highly efficient English soldiers, and naturally found them wanting in martial calibre. But if he were to --- compare them, with the troops of Mudhoji Bhonsle's time,

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1. Early European Travellers in Nagpur, p.73.
2. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, pp.138-39.
3. Nagpur Residency Records, I, L.Nos.24 & 28.(App.A.6 & A.7).
4. Ibid.

or with those in the territories of other Indian rulers, except in that of Daulat Rao Sindia, he would sound a note of appreciation for the achievement of Raja Rughuji. At the same time,we cannot but agree with Colebrooke, when he wrote that the fficiency of the Raja's army was marred, by the -- irregularity of payment he made towards his troops, and -- because of the Raja's own unwarlike and mean disposition.[1]

Because of this very incomplete martial state of his troops, Rughuji Bhonsle was not able to help Sindia as he should have done, in their famous War in 1803 against the British. In fact the results of the battles of Assye and - Argaon and the loss sustained at Gawilgarh broke largely the military strength of the Nagpur Bhonsle. The great loss of revenue, resulting from the cession of valuable territo--ries to the British and the Nizam, prevented Rughuji --- Bhonsle, from attempting again to raise the standard and - strength of his army. Considering his financial circumstances, the Raja was forced to disband a number of his battalions of regular infantry, and 7000 **of his** irregular horse, immediate--ly after the Peace of Deogaon was signed.[2]

Even under these strained circumstances, Raja - Rughuji had by the end of the year 1804, a sufficiently big army. His irregular cavalry of Silahdars, who owned their own horses numbered about 10000 to 12000 men. His own Paga number--ed 1800 horse with 900 men of his brother Vyankoji.[3] The --

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1. Nagpur Residency Records, I,L.No.28 (App.A.7).
2. The Nagpur State in the 18th Century by Wills,p.187.
3. Ibid. p.188.

regular infantry numbered over 4000 troops most of whom were natives of Benares, Oudh, and the adjoining provinces.[1] The above estimate was not quite a correct one, as a great measure of corruption, was in existence between the men supporting fixed numbers of troops and the muster-masters. These recording officers were bribed, to put more men on the muster roll, than were in force under these military officers.[2]

At the same time the Raja's army could have been increased instantly, if he were only to demand such an addition. Because these same officials, who cheated him out of the true numbers of soldiers could furnish more fighting men, than their allotted share, because there was always a certain number of men, who had never been on military service, ready to join the army, to get experience and gather a share of the plunder and the spoil.[3]

The method of recruitment, during the reign of Rughuji II, was more elaborate and binding, than ever before. The Sardar or head of a troop of infantry or horse, entered into an agreement for all his men, by which he bound himself and his men, to serve the King under the enforced conditions. The conditions demanded, that the soldiers must agree to serve for twelve months, in lieu of eleven or ten months' pay, which he was to receive in the usual manner of payment in existence in the State. That during time of war, whether in the Nagpur

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1. Nagpur Residency Records, XXV,L.No.62, (App.A.21).
2. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century, p.189.
3. Ibid.

territories or outside it, whatever property or buried treasure they seized or discovered, was to be surrendered to the Sarkar. That any capture made, of enemy's cannon or elephant carrying the enemy's flag, must be given up to the Sarkar. Lastly that in time of war, mutiny, or at the --- moment of going into battle if the soldiers demanded their pay, or asked for their dismissal from the army, they would be liable to punishment, which the government may think fit to inflict.[1] Having entered into this agreement the Risaldar or head of the troops, gets a voucher from the Surdafter, after the other preliminaries of muster-enrolment and the signature of the Raja is obtained to the agreement, for the enlistment. This voucher enables the Sardar to draw the pay of his Risala. However when the pay is claimed,he finds, that there have been further deductions, than those specifi-_ed in the agreement. The deductions at times rose to even six annas in the rupee.[2]

The payment of the balance was not made, in one full amount. Two-thirds of this value was paid, in irregular instalments, in the course of every month, and the remaining third was paid twice a year, when the military accounts were drawn up. But much of this third portion was paid, in clothes from the Raja's shops, so that the Raja could make some --- profit out of that portion as well.[3] Even these low and ---

1.Wills, The Nagpur State int the 18th Century.p.190.
2.Ibid.
3.Ibid. p.191.

irregular payments, were allowed to fall in arrears, which eventually made the soldiers to borrow loans. Since the - city Sahukars would not lend without proper security, the loans were taken from the Raja who advanced in lieu of their pay on an enormous interest of 6% per month. The burden of this great interest, soon placed the poor soldiers in the grasp of the Raja, who when the time came for the settlement of their debts, took a decided advantage and cleared up great portions of the arrears of pay due to the troops.[1] Naturally when such a system of management in the military department prevailed, the state of efficiency amongst the soldiers was hard to attain. It was fortunate, that living then was -- cheap, which enabled a Silahdar horse to feed himself and his animal on 20/-Rs. per month because out of his pay of -- 25/-Rs, he had to surrender 5/- Rs. towards the Chief of his party. A Bargir horse was better off, because his animal was fed by the government and he was given seven to eight rupees as his monthly pay. A soldier in the regular infantry was paid less, getting six rupees per month.[2]

REVENUE SYSTEM OF THE BHONSLES.

The general heads of the revenue under the Maratha government of the Bhonsles were: Land Revenue, --------- Kullalee, Bewaee and Pandree, Sair, City Customs including Mint

1. Wills, The Nagpur State in the 18th Century. p.191.
2. Ibid. pp.192-93.

etc. and the Oobaree of Zemindars.

Except for the oity customs and Oobaree, the -- Kumaishdars of Purganahs collected the revenue. They were revenue collectors, magistrates and police officials in one.[1]

LAND REVENUE.

West of the Lanjhi hills the districts had been conquered from the Muslims and so the old Mughal system prevailed at least nominally.

In the lands conquered from the Gonds the ancient Gond system was kept up by the conquerors.[2] The whole country of Deogarh and Chanda was divided in Purganahs which varied in size according to the number of the villages each contain--ed. During the Gond rule the Deshmukh and Deshpandia managed the affairs of the Purganah, under the common Zemindar system, but the Marathas retained only a few officers keeping the - general manager whose denomination they changed from Hoordar to Kumaishdar. He was helped by the Keeper of the Government accounts of the Purganah called Mohurior in the past but was now called the Furnavis. The other officer of the Purganah was the Wurar Pandia or the recorder of the village accounts.[3]

In the village the superior officer was the Putel

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.156.
2. Ibid, pp.156-57.
3. Ibid, p.157.

with one or two assistants called the Pandia or the --- accountant, the Kotwar with the usual establishment of --- Barra Bulooti or Aykerri found throughout most part of the - Deccan.[1]

The Putel. The Putel was the agent of the Govern--ment apportioning and collecting rent, for which he was -- absolutely responsible. He possessed subordinate and ----- undefined magisterial power and judicial authority. His --- remuneration was paid either in money, or in rent free land, besides trifling dues and privileges. After further deductions his income came down to one sixth of the Government share of - the revenue. His office was not hereditary or saleable. When ejected from it or when he resigned, no Malikanah was allowed. Usually the son or a relative succeeded through sufferance or through a new appointment. The successor took the responsibi--lities under fresh conditions and was not hampered by claims against his father or relative.[2]

The other inferior servants of the village after the Pandia and the Kotwar were the Joshi, Bhoomuk, Parpugari, Warai or carpenter, Khati or blacksmith, Chumar, Mahli or barber and Wurhti or washerman. The first six were termed Sirkar Summundy of Government servants although chiefly paid by the Kirsans or ryots. The next five were termed Saon Summundy and were wholly the servants of the villagers.[3]

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories. p.157.
2. Ibid. pp.157-8.
3. Ibid. p.167.

The Pandia was the village accountant, kept the Lagwuns and was appointed generally by the Putel. His - office was not hereditary and he was paid 15 to 90 Rs. per year from the Government and in some cases had a - field, rent-free.[1]

The Joshi was the astrologer and the priest to officiate at births, deaths, marriages or religious -- ceremonies of all kinds. He was usually a Brahmin. He got his remuneration from a small field of little value in Inam, one or two Rs. from the Gaon Khurch allowance, a -- Kuru or 8 pailees of grain from each Kirsan annually, and alms from the Kirsans at festivals etc.[2]

The Kotwar was the village watchman and a man of importance. He was always a Dher possessed of quickness and intelligence. He knew the names and the rents of each field and the names of its occupants. He was a servant of the Government and of the Kirsans. He could be dismissed by the Putel who employed him as a messenger and errand man to the Thana. The Kirsans used him to call them to - feasts, marriages etc. He waited on travellers, furnishing them with coolies firewood and supplies. He reported all arrivals and departures. All extra requisites for forage by the Government was collected by him. In case of theft the Kotwar endeavoured to trace the thieves from one village to another showing great sagacity.[3]

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.167.
2. Ibid. pp.167-68.
3. Ibid.p.168.

In large villages and towns he was assisted by another under him known as the Turrar also a Dher. The - Kotwar was given a field of little value in Inam, a Kuru of grain from each plough or the privilege of collecting the sweepings of the Kullees or threshing floors, and -- Adhur i.e. the hides and carcasses of dead animals. In some places he got a few pice at marriages or festivals etc. and and Chungee or the right of taking a handful of grain etc. from each basket carried into the bazar. TheTurrar got a - petty grain allowance from each Kirsan.[1]

The Bhoomuk a Gond performed the customary worship of the boundary deities, attended on Government servants, fetched water for them etc. He acted as a poon and armed with a sword and spear accompanied marriage processions. He was also considered a magician to drive out the evil - spirit. He got a rupee or two from the Government, a few pice and 2 or 3 pailees of grain from each Kirsan.[2]

The Gerpuncree was also a magician to drive away hail-storms and calamities from the village. He got 8 annas or a rupee and a couple of pailees of grain from each -- Kirsan.

In large villages there was generally an officer called the Mawildar who acted under the Patel in matters of police. He was paid by the Government.[3]

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.169.
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid.p.170.

In Kusbahs or chief towns of Purganahs a Pandhree Pandia keeps the accounts of the Pandhree and Kullalee.[1]

The remunerations of the officers of the Purganah were as follows. The Kumaishdar got from Rs.250 to 500 Rs. per year but also received Nuzzurs and various other -- contributions from his Purganah. In particular the collec--tions and disbursements of the Burguns were a great source of profit to the Kumaishdar.[2]

The Furnavis was paid from 100 to 250 Rs.per annum with a Durdehee of Re.1 from each village in his Purganah and 1 Re. on all orders and papers issued from his office.

The Wurar Pandia got from 100 to 150 Rs.per year and had 2 Rs. on each village.[3]

ASSESSMENT IN VILLAGES.

The Putels granted yearly leases to cultivators and not for a longer period, so that perpetual tilling of the same land was not possible. No distinctions were made as to the terms allowed. Everyone was liable to be taxed to the full proportion of the whole "Jumma" which with the proportionate share of a separate field or parcel is open to yearly variation.[4]

1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.170.
2. Ibid, p.166.
3. Ibid.
4. Ibid, pp.157-8.

The cultivated lands of each village were divided into fields each named and recorded in the village --- register's accounts. The assessment was apportioned upon these fields. There were no fixed assessments or rates, either general or for distinct villages. The total "Jumma" of the - villages varied and revenue papers made no mention of the rates; even the people had no idea how much they had to pay.[1]

The apportioning of the waste lands also gave no clue to the principles under which the rates were managed. These lands were assessed by Nuzzerandaz or estimate.

Generally the annual settlements were concluded at the commencement of the agricultural year between the ryot and the Putel. This agreement known as the "Istimalut" was not definite because the total village assessment was not known, so the rent to be paid was not fixed.[2]

In a village the lands were classed as the "Chal" or the "Thok". The former were of better fertility than the - latter. Taking the former the renter bound himself to pay a stated proportion of the whole village assessment. Renting the latter the Putel could not demand the proportion of the whole assessment so he let it out at a fixed rent. Now the Chal or Thok land at one year may be vice versa next year according to the agreement between the Putel and the tenants.

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.158-9.

2. Ibid, p.159.

The Thok land gave a fixed rent, so the remainder of the rent from the full village assessment was given by the Chal lands. These were finally assessed not by measure but in money i.e. rupees, annas or cowries. This proportional value was called the "Ain" of the field. If the "Ain" of - two pieces may be 3 and 4 annas or cowries respectively then they contributed in that ratio. The rates may be altered by raising or lowering this "Ain".[1]

Amongst other papers in every village there is one called the "Lagwun". In this is recorded all the above details of engagements concluded between the ryots and the Putel."When the amount of the Government demand is known the rate of -- assessment on each unit of the "Ain" and which is denominated Dharra is also inserted."[2]

The Lagwun of the preceding year is used as the basis of the new year's assessment or Jumma. That if no changes -- were necessary the assessment would be the same as before.But no two years' settlements were made in conformity with each - other, as several contending interests were at stake. The - settlement was seldom concluded without much discussion --- between the parties.[3]

The "Istimalut" was a preparatory Kulwar or Ryotwar settlement in which a new apportionment of the assessment was made in order to meet the changes that may have arisen in the

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.159-60.
2. Ibid, pp.160-61.
3. Ibid, p.161.

state of the lands and in their cultivators. The object was to arrive at a correct valuation and the attainment left to the village community, in whose hands perhaps there was any chance of its being affected.[1]

Assessment of the Purganahs.

After the engagements of the Istimalut the Putels met before the Kumaishdar and who after deliberations with them and the other revenue officers decided on the definite assessment of the Purganah according to the determination of the Government. The Kumaishdar bore in mind the Tufieek or distribution of the last year and introduced also --- certain changes which he thought fit to make according to the relative capacity of the villages, and according to the reports of the inspectors sent out to examine the Lagguns of the villages.[2]

When the Government wanted to raise the assessment of the Purganah they introduced Puttees or Burguns known as the extra percentages on a certain portion of the whole assessment called the "Ain Jummabundi".[3] Jenkins says that on what this extra assessment originally was it could not be ascertained. The Gonds probably calculated on the whole Jumma, whilst the Marathas applied it on the whole land - revenue.

All the yearly deductions of fallow lands and the

1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.163.
2. Ibid, pp.163-4.
3. Ibid, p.164.

reductions on particular lands were made partly from the "Ain Jummabundi" and so it had diminished whilst the Jumma had gone on increasing for every additional Putti introduced.

These Puttees were introduced on the whole - country or on particular Purganahs only. Occasionally they were put on for a year or two, and taken off but most commonly they became part of the permanent assess--ment.[1] During the reign of the first Raghuji from --- 1745-1755 the Putti amounted to 80% of the Ain Jumma--bundi. In Janoji's reign from 1755-1772 it went up to 96% and during the time of Sabaji from 1772 to 1775 it fell to 32%. During the Regency of Mudhoji for 13 years it was about 35% whilst in the time of Raghuji II it -- outdid in its rise those of all his predecessors by --- reaching 130% from 1792-1816.[2]

The Revenue Collection.

The business of the revenue collection of all districts which were previously under the Gonds and was carried on in the Gond Raja's office till 1756 was -- transferred later by Janoji to his own Kucheri making the Gond accountant his servant.[3]

In the following years the system of assembling

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.165.
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid, p.170.

the Putels twice a year to Nagpur to settle their accounts was kept up, but in the reign of Mudhoji it gradually fell into disuse and was entirely discontinued by Raghuji II. The Kusbah or the chief town of each Purganah then on became the scene of all direct operations of assessment. The revenue year commenced in June when the Istimalut was made. In -- August an Ijmailee or estimate of the receipts and disburse--ments of each Purganah for the current year was sent from Nagpur. This estimate was based on the last account and was a guide to the Kumaishdar for the new year. According to the Ijmailee and the amount realised last year, the assessment was increased or decreased. When a land went out of cultivation, which was called Pur, a Burgun or extra import was laid on the Purganah and when remissions or Bad were to be made on lands, the village had to pay in which the remission was made. But it was seldom that these claims were at all attended to. An increase in the estimate was assessed proportionally on the Ain.[1]

The Putels who were assembled before the Kumaishdar were sent to collect according to the amount they would have to pay. Having gathered the 12 annas instalment they were -- called in December to be informed when the remaining 4 annas in the rupee were to be collected. This time the Putti or Burguns were introduced whether they came from the Government or from the Kumaishdar to cover his miscellaneous expenses.[2]

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.170-71.

2. Ibid, p.171.

The first instalment of 12 annas in the rupee which the Putel collected was called the Phonkuree or Sesanin-ka--Towjeeh. Of these 12 annas the first 4 annas were paid in September; the second 4 annas were paid in October and the third in November. The second instalment called the ----- Char Pyse-ka_Towjeeh demanded the payments of the remaining 4 annas in the rupee in February and March.[1]

All payments made by the Putel were delivered over at the Kusbah in cash or drafts on Sahukars. An involved Putel or good character was helped by the Kumaishdar, who stood as surety to the Sahukar for a loan; otherwise the -- Putel made over the whole collection of his village. Usually the ryots paid their 12 annas in the rupee to the Putel in cash or borrowed from him to pay the same dues or gave bonds on his security to the Sahukar, who paid the sum whilst the Putel put a restraint on their property till the debts were cleared. These transactions often ruined the ryots.[2]

The loan known as Laonee was made against the grains of the crop on the ground, at a rate considerably lower to the bazar price. The another type and a more simpler form of loan was made in agreement of the sale of the crop with 2% interest per month. This type of loan was common with the Sahukars. When a Putel advanced a loan he received Sewaee or 25% interest for whatever period the loan might run.[3]

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.166.
2. Ibid, pp.171-72.
3. Ibid, p.172.

When the agriculturist failed to pay the first loan he often borrowed again pledging his cattle, implements, and produce. Invariably he became insolvent afterwards which made the Putel seize everything the debtor owned. The agri-culturist by a deed of sale voluntarily transferred his right to his property.[1]

The accounts of all the ryots were generally settled on the 1st of Chyte (in April) on which day the Istimalut - commenced. Some of the ryots in bad circumstances or being - unfortunate sufferers of chance had to be helped for the coming year. This obliged the Putel to give them a loan which was - called Tuccavi.[2] The Tuccavi loan consisted of cash for the - purchase of cattle or agricultural implements, or these were furnished in exchange by the Putel himself at a stated value for which 2% per mensem as interest was taken. The seed grain or grain for the subsistence of the Kirsdas and their families, which was required usually by the poor classes of the agricul-turists were also advanced by the Putel at 25% interest without a fixed time of payment.[3]

Revenue Management in the Old Muhomedan Principalities.

In the districts ceded by the Nizam to Janoji in --

1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories. p.172.
2. Ibid. p.173.
3. Ibid.

1763 with some previously held, and the Do-Amli area the full share of which was obtained by the Nagpur Government till 1803, were all managed by the old Muhomedan revenue - system. The original revenue system was similar to that of Toorul-mul. By it the lands were measured and classed so that to fix permanently the assessment of each portion. The last measurements and classifications were made by Murshed-Quli-Khan one of Shah Jehan's officers about 173 years ago. This system had however failed though it could not be ascertained as to why.[1]

The collections were reduced and Burguns -- imposed in different times making the rates to vary. Though some of the old forms were preserved, the principles had undergone a total change. The rent varied as in the - other districts from the same causes and all the village - lands were open to annual alterations in the apportionment of their assessment.[2]

Since the Do-Amli districts were immediately - under the Nizam's officers the Marathas had no hand in the matter of its revenue management. They however introduced changed forms of village papers wherever they had undivided control. They removed Durs or rates on different kinds of land and introduced an uniform yearly Dhara on the whole and as the statement of the measurement served as the Ain

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.173-74.
2. Ibid, p.174.

the system was quite assimilated to the more general one already described.[1] In these districts the village establish--ment was the same except that the Putel's office was here--ditary and was of more value as he with the petty perqui--sites got 15% on the whole land revenue. His share was however liable to reduction or even to total resumption to make up deficiencies of the Kamil Jumma of Murshed-Quli-Khan. If the Putel's share was distributed amongst his descendants, they were all jointly responsible to remit all deficiencies in any year's assessment from their own pocket. If necessary the whole of the Putel's dues may be sold -- without his consent. If the Putel was unable to manage his affairs he usually transferred his charge to the Mustajir or renter until such time as he was able to take up the management himself. No length of time without the office deprived him of his post which was imprescriptable. A Putel dying without heirs could adopt on death-bed or sell his office. The Maratha government did not allow this. It appoint--ed Ijardar Putels to the vacant place.[2]

In these districts Deshmukhs and Despandias were also appointed. They got 5% and 2½% respectively on the Kamil Jumma and had also a share on the Siwai Jumma -- collections. These officers held hereditary rights to their post but they could not sell it.[3] These Rusoom Zemindari were not exactly 7½% on the land revenue but on the fixed Kamil

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.174-5.
2. Ibid, p.175.
3. Ibid, p.176.

Jumma. If the Jumma increased they did not benefit. ----- At the same time if it decreased they had to remit the -- deficiency from their own dues which became less in propor--tion. Their duty was to assist in the revenue settlement and in particular to make the Tufreek or apportionment pf the Purganah assessment on the several villages. The Des--pandia prepared the revenue papers having Pandias under -- him.[1]

The Marathas discontinued the Zemindars in some places though they allowed them their dues.[2] Wherever they discharged their duties the Zemindars were influential -- among the community but whether they benefited the Government or the people was doubtful.

Till 1792 the Maratha management was prosperous and was liked but in the years following misrule had begun, till it became really bad when Raghuji placed heavier imposts to maintain his army after he had lost his wealth in the War of 1803. The reign of Appa Sahib made matters worse as exactions and plunder increased until the Putels and the ryots were both in a bankrupt state.[3]

The Sayer. Sayer was a tax on home produce passing from one part of the country to another or beyond the --- country's boundaries; on foreign productions in transit and

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.176-7.
2. Ibid, p.177.
3. Ibid, pp.177-8.

on numerous other lesser articles of miscellaneous descrip--tion e.g. on sales, stamping cloth, and on several petty - monopolies.[1]

The Kullalee or Abkaree. was a tax on contracts or licenses for the selling of spirituous liquors.

The Sewaee was a tax which included numerous -- petty imposts of different kinds.

The Pandry was a cess on houses, calculated to fall on those who were not agriculturists or those paying land revenue.[2]

The Sayer and some of the taxes included in Sawaee were usually farmed out to individuals.

The City Customs fell under the general term of Sayer and were drawn up as follows. All duties on import, export in transit, with those paid by the inhabitants of the city were termed Hukum Hassil dues.[3]

The Zemindari Duty was levied on imported grain only upto 8 pailees for every cart load. But Raghuji II made it 1/- Re. for a cart load and gradually increased it and levied it on all articles paying Hukum Hassil dues also.[4]

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories. p.219.
2. Ibid. pp.219-20.
3. Ibid. pp.224-25.
4. Ibid. p.230.

The Goor Kirana was also a duty in kind but Rughuji II made a demand of money payment after the 1803 War.

The Pysaroo & Nikasoo were synonymous with imports and exports and Uba Marg and Ruheet Mall with Urr-rasta were all - strictly transit duties.[1]

In the Sayer account of the city was included the -- amount realised from the Sayer of the villages situated in - the Nagpur Parganah and amounting in number to about 360.

It was usual in Rughuji II's time and that of Appa - Sahib's to give certain duties of the Sayer in his Izarah and keep the remainder in Amanee. The Zemindari, Kullalee, Goor Kirana and duties on wood and other minor articles were farmed out to the highest bidder. The stamp duty and taxes on houses and shops were always in Amanee and the collected revenue was then assigned to the Raja's favourite. The mint was not included in the Sayer but it was attached to the Silkakhana.[2]

THE UBARY OR TRIBUTE & ACCOUNT OF THE ZEMINDARS.

Deogarh below the Ghauts: In this quarter there were - practically no Zemindars.[3]

Wyne Gunga Districts : The Zemindars of these districts were in Lanjhee, Sahungurhee and Pertaubgarh between the Wyne

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.225.
2. Ibid, 329-30.
3. Ibid, p.238.

Gunga and Lanjhee range of hills. Those of Lanjhee were thirteen in number. The important ones were Comptah and Terrora. Comptah was given to Ram Putel by Raghuji I for a rent of 60 Rs. Afterwards Huttah and other taluks were added which brought in Terrora. To Ram Putel succeeded his brother Gondu, who was followed by his son Chimna. In 1818 because of his rebellion Chimna lost his right to the -- Zemindari and one Nerbhut was placed there by the British management. The next important Zemindari was of Dunseewah which had originally belonged to Huttah, but was given to Willayutkhan Pathan by Gondu Putel of Comptah for a fixed rent of 600 Rs. After a quarrel with Chimna the Maratha - Government conferred the Zemindari by Huttah on Willayutkhan. The other Zemindaries were of Bhanara and Bhurgaon/which and were of equal value. The former was owned by Jynudinkhan Pathan the Subahdar of Lanjhee and the latter by the family of Rudra Putel whose ancestor got it from Raghuji Kurande when quite deserted. The other smaller Zemindaries were of little importance.[1]

The Zemindars in Suhungurhee and Pertaubgerh were twelve and six in number respectively.[2]

Most of the Zemindaries in these districts with the exception of Comptah and Terrora were in the hills or immediately under them.[3]

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.238-40.
2. Ibid, p.240.
3. Ibid.

The Marathas granted the Zemindaries to the Gonds and Rajputs as rewards or to ensure tranquillity when the country was unsettled in the past. By some old Sunnuds these Zemindars paid fixed rent and supplied soldiers to help the Government officials in Police matters. They were entirely on sufferance but were absolute masters of their lands. The rent demanded varied as opportunity offered. They often fought -- amongst themselves and sometimes joined together to rebel against the Maratha yoke. They were averse to industry and being poor were oppressive managers of their lands.[1]

Chhutteesgarh : The Zemindars of Chhutteesgarh were divided into two sections. Those of the western quarter called the Khullotee included the important ones of Khyragarh, -- Dongergarh and Nandgaon and the lesser ones of Kondka, Gundye, Sohugpore, Lohara and Takur Tola. The Khyragarh Zemindar -- prided himself on being a descendant of the old Hindu dynasty of Mundla. That of Nandgaon was a descendant of a Byragi --- family. The rest were all of Gond extract. Except for the -- larger Zemindaries which were ruled on more civilised lines, the rest followed the old methods of rule and paid very little revenue.[2]

In the north-west of Chhutteesgarh lay the Zemindaries of Kowerdah and Pandareeah. These Zemindars were of high noble

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.240.
2. Ibid.,pp.241-2.

Gond family. The high road to Mundla and Jubbulpur passed through their lands. During Appa Sahib's rebellion they had privately helped against the British but were better dispos--ed afterwards. The other Zemindars in this section were of Paindra, Maten, Uproda and Kainda all situated in the hills north and east of Ruttunpur. Those of Chooree, Koorba and Chappa were on the eastern frontier. South of these and of the Mahnudy river adjoining the Sumbulpur district were the petty Zemindaries of Kondwan, Sonakun, Bhutgaon,Beklygur, Kuttingur, Cowria, Birkoonee, Soormar etc. These were all - very poor Zemindaries located in the hills and jungles and paid very little tribute.[1]

Kankair: The Chiefs in Kankair were called the Rajas. This Zemindari lay south of Raipur by 40 miles. The family of the Raja was very ancient and held its right from the Marathas on condition of furnishing 500 fighting men free of expense.[2]

Kuronde Zemindari lay 100 miles in the south east of Chhutteesgarh. It was 90 miles long and 66 miles broad. It was known as Kala Handi onnthe maps. It was very mountain--ous and woody divided into 18 Gurhs or petty Zemindaries, inhabited by Koads who were wild men and who paid on --- compulsion.[3]

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories,pp.242-3.
2. Ibid, pp.245-6.
3. Ibid, p.246.

Bustar was rather more than 200 miles and a little less in breadth. It was very woody and hilly. Only valleys were cultivated and it was partially cleared of jungles. Bustar paid 10000 Rupees as revenue but through the medium of Cowries which often fluctuated in value.[1]

The Chanda District lay east of the Wyne Gunga and stretched along its bank. The land did not reach the ---- Godavary because the narrow strip on both banks of the river belonged to Hyderabad. This strip was occupied by the Yulmees who gave a lot of trouble to the Bhonsles by their raids. It was only by 1815 that they became quiet.

The lands of most of the Zemindars of Chanda being -- amongst mountains and jungles paid very little and gave no hope of a passage through them to the coast.[2]

Deogarh above the Ghauts : Here the Gond Zemindars - were called Thakurs. They were of Hurrye, of Bhutragarh, of Raeerhera, of Pachmari, of Pugara, of Almoat,of Bhurdagarh and of Sonepur. These Thakurs were feudatory Chiefs from a long time under the Gonds as well as under the Marathas.Their wild unproductive country prevented their subjugation. The - Maratha policy was to sport the strongest amongst them who could rule all. But the Maratha method had failed as the -- Government agents changed side as it suited them and there was

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.247-49.
2. Ibid.pp.249-51.

always disorder in the district. When Appa Sahib fled from his escort he took shelter amongst them and these Thakurs joined him to a man. They defended him and refused to give him up though tempted with large rewards. The -- military operations against them were successful in putting every one in British hands. The capture of Chyne Shah by Major Obrien finished the campaign. Living in wild jungle lands the people here were not self-supporting. They became raiders and plunderers. The Zemindars having mercenary -- troops were obliged to find employment for them in other districts, so naturally they were the most refractory -- of the Nagpur subjects.[1]

JUSTICE & POLICE.

Justice : Under the Marathas there were no -- regularly constituted Courts of Justice in the country -- except the one in the City of Nagpur for the trial of petty offences which had been established by Mudhoji in 1776 in which a Musulman presided.

Civil Justice : The Civil Justice was administer--ed by the Raja, the Kumaishdar and the Putel not according to any written law or following any customs well adhered to and understood, but according to his own opinion or partia--lity.[2] The Muhomedan law was administered to the Musulmans

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.252-57.
2. Ibid. p.264.

and the Hindu written law of inheritance as interpreted by the principal Shastras was followed only when there was a disputed succession. In the punishment of the --- criminals certain general rules were adhered to except -- when particular reasons needed a departure from them. There were no fixed rules of jurisdiction. Cases of minor --- importance fell into the hands of subordinate function--aries whilst those of greater consequence were decided by the higher powers. The Raja decided generally on suits involving above a thousand Rupees; but at times he referred them to a Punchayat. The Kumaishdar if needed, took the - advice of the Furnavis, the Murar Pandia or the Putel -- whilst judging. Usually he decided himself or appointed a Punchayat whose decision he enforced.[1]

The Jagirdars within their limits judged like the Kumaishdars and often assumed more authority.- A Putel could not decide civil suits but appointed Courts of arbitration. An appeal could be made to the Raja from sentence of inferior authorities.[2]

Civil suits cost a lot of money so there was -- little litigation carried to the Government officials. The Sukrana or one-fourth of the sum awarded or recovered was paid to the Government. Similarly Zurinama or fine of one--fourth was paid by the person who lost the suit.[3]

1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.265.
2. Ibid.,p.265.
3. Ibid.

The Bhut Masala or fee paid to the Mumaishdar to defray the expenses of summoning the defendant which was- generally 5 to 10 Rupees. The person summoned had to support the man who served the summons with Roz or Khorak of 2 or - 3 annas with daily food. When the Raja summoned by horsemen or camel Hirkaras their expenses of 20 to 40 Rupees per day were to be paid by the person summoned. Owing to these --- costly methods, the people preferred to settle disputes -- amongst themselves by the institutions and practice of the country.[1]

In a village the Mahjan was the elected arbitrator of the Putels and the Ryots jointly. He was generally a -- Maratha Hoinbee and in general decided all disputes amongst that class - The Tilees, Koshtees, Burdhans etc, had Seteyahs as their heads who decided between them. If their decisions were unsatisfactory a Panchayat of Seteyahs was called who judged finally. Occasionally was the Raja referred to but not often.[2]

The Punchayats dealt with succession of properties, boundaries, trespasses of cattle, advances of Putels and - Sahukars, non-performance of contracts etc. The Putel assembl- -ed the Punchayat which collected on the Chubutra or terrace of the Mahdeo to sanctify their oath of the just performance

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.265-6.
2. Ibid, p.266.

of their duty. Most respectable people of any caste or profession were chosen. The Putel mentioning their names those objected to by the litigants were changed. Sometimes each party chose an equal number and another was chosen mutually. Before starting on work the parties were asked whether they would abide by the decision.[1] In important cases when parties were known to be litigious, a written Razinama was exacted.

The proceedings of village Punchayats were rare-ly recorded. The Plaintiff and his witnesses were first heard and examined then the defendant and his. The --- evidences and friends of both parties were allowed to be present and they often interfered leading to much confusion and decisions were often carried by acclamation but at -- times the trial went on for days. Rich litigants supplied victuals, betel, tobacco for the members and amongst the Gonds liquors were introduced and disgraceful scenes took place.[2].

When higher authorities assembled the Punchayat the proceedings were written down for reference. Witnesses were kept separate during examination and no interference permitted with members. The person who assembled the Puncha-yat had to see to its decision being carried out.[3]

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.266-7.
2. Ibid. p.267.
3. Ibid.

The boundary disputes in villages were often settled in two ways. One when the "Emaun" was performed agreeble to both parties i.e. the Kotwar with a bundle of grass from the disputed field and a skin of cow or buffalo on his head point-ed out the true limits, before the attendance of many people including the Putel. If the Putel whose Kotwar performed the Emaun loses any part of his property, a bullock or cow etc. -- within a month the Emaun was false and the decision went in the favour of the opponent.[1] The second method left more to -- chance i.e. names of deities were placed in a vessel and if the first name drawn out is the same as that decided on in the beginning, the claim was just or vice versa.[2]

Criminal Justice : Deciding on criminal cases the Raja or the Kumaishdars followed certain customary general rules. If there was house-breaking and the sufferer can identify the offender and the property, the latter would be restored after a deduction of one-fourth for the Sirkar. The offender was put in iron and his property confiscated.[3] If a thief was caught in the act he would be stopped and slapped or given blows with - slipper and let off. If taken to the thana he would be flogged and confined in stocks for 15 to 20 days or a month and if he could pay was fined. If the offences were repeated the criminal would be allowed till the tenth time when further repetition -- caused the mutilation of their nose, hands or fingers. If it was

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.268.
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid.

a gang robbery, the offenders were put in a sort of pillory erected near most of the villages, then flogged until the property was discovered with their accomplices. If the -- Government servant found the lost property, one-fourth -- went to the Government but if the person who lost it -- discovered it, the whole was restored to him. If the person robbed was wounded the offenders were mutilated and for - murder death was the punishment.[1]

Women and Brahmins were exempted from capital punishment for murder. A woman causing domestic murder e.g. a husband, lost her nose.[2]

Murder charge could be compounded with the -- deceased relatives at their wish. For 350 Rupees the -- relative or heir gave in acceptance a release note or --- Farighkhutee. Sometimes the property of the murderer was also seized by the Government.[3]

Fornication : A woman caught in the act was -- brought to the thana and asked to name her paramours. The men were punished without evidence by heavy fines which in part went to the Government and part to the officer. The woman was given over to her caste and punished according to their award.[4]

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.268-9.
2. Ibid, p.269.
3. Ibid, pp.269-70.
4. Ibid, p.270.

Coiners lost their hands which were crushed by a blow from a heavy mallet or pestle. For cheating and swindling, men were flogged, imprisoned or fined.[1]

Police : There was not a regular Police force during the Maratha regime but the Rajas had been in the habit of -- employing a body of men known as the Hirkaras for their ---- espionage service. These with the Kumaishdars and the Butels did the Police work.[2]

Neither prevention or detection was based on any fixed plan coming from or having to do anything with the higher --- authority. It was the self defence which kept the village --- alert. On the other hand the higher authority set bad examples by keeping band of robbers to prey on strangers and travellers and those whom he particularly wished to deprive of extra --- wealth. The Raja's relatives followed his example and people avoided having wealth to be in peace and safety.[3]

AGRICULTURE. MANUFACTURE. TRADE & COMMERCE.

Agriculture in the Nagpur territories was not ---- unfamiliar to those in existence in other parts of India. The land was classified in two manners. One according to the produce it fetched, was Khureef, Rubbee and Bughait. The other was ---

1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.270.
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid, p.271.

according to the quality of the soil. In this classifica-
-tion the rich black loam was called Kalee, the looser -
earth mixed with small stones was known as Kurdee and the
last was the reddish earth found on rocky substrata known
as Burdee.[1]

The Khureef crop were besides rice which was chiefly produced in the districts of the Wyne Gunga,Chanda and Chhutteesgarh, Kodoo, Kootkee and Sawa with the ----- important crop of Juwari and Toor. Under the rubbee crop came wheat, Chenna, Ulsee, Moong, Til,Sesame,Muhsoor and Erundi.[2] The ploughing for the Khureef harvest begins in June. All the inequalities of the surface are levelled over by the paring plough used about twice over. The actual -- ploughing than proceeds and is applied about three to four times before the sowing of the seed. The sowing follows the first fall of rain. The Toor and Cotton are usually sown in alternate ridges whilst Juwar and Moong go together. The - Juwar crop which is the most impprtant throws out its head in September and is ripe in November or December.[3]

The rice crop which is next in importance is sown in different manners in different districts. The returns of rice are on an average tenfold, sometimes twenty and not -- frequently, only five. The crop depends mostly on the supply

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.71.
2. Ibid. pp.71-2.
3. Ibid, p.73.

of water.[1]

The ground for the Rubbee crop is generally pared in June or July and left unused till the end of rains. It is then ploughed again to remove wild growth. If the season has given a heavy fall of rain followed by a long cessation of it, the ground becomes hard and caked and requires great and emergent labour, to prepare the ground for the sowing in November and December. The crop ripens in February and is cut in March.[2]

The principal garden crop of the Nagpur territories was sugarcane. It was chiefly cultivated in Deogarh above the Ghats and in the Wyne Gunga districts. It required a highly efficient knowledge of agriculture with sufficient capital and a great amount of industry and care. The crop grew to its full size, and ready for cutting after a period of eleven months. The sugarcane was then squeezed into a mill consisting of two upright cylinders of wood which worked together by a perpetual screw. Two pair of bullocks turned the mill. The juice was then boiled to a proper consistency and poured into a cooler. About four thousand maunds of Goor was produced in the two principal Purgannas of the Wyne Gunga district.[3]

The lesser products after sugarcane were Pan or

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.74.
2. Ibid, pp.74-5.
3. Ibid, pp.77-78.

Betel creeper, Turmeric, Plantain, Tobacco,Ganja. Opium was very scarcely cultivated, Dyes were the Al or Morinda, citriflolia and the Saffflower or Kussum. The principal oils were the Til or Sesame, Ulsee or linseed and Erundi or -- castor.[1]

Cotton which was produced in Deogarh, in the - north west parts of Berar and Chhutteesgarh[2] was grown --- during Khureef as well as Rubbee seasons.[3]

The agriculturists here did not follow strictly the methods of rotating their crops or leaving their -- fields, fallow for some time. Wheat being a standard crop was seldom changed. In the case of Chenna it was alternat-ed with Lakh whilst cotton and Toor gave place to Juwar. Sugarcane sometimes was changed with turmeric,yams and - carrots. To fertilise the Rubbee waste land, usually Ulsee or Chenna were sown for the first and second year, to give place to wheat in the third year. Similarly about Khureef waste land rice or other small grains were cultivated, to give place after two years, to a better product.[4]

The state of the agriculturists themselves was not very happy. With a few bullocks and his ploughing -- implements, given a fair season he produced enough to pay

1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories,pp.78-9.
2. Early European Travellers in Nagpur, pp.139-41.
3. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories,p.80.
4. Ibid.

the Putel and prepare for the coming year. If he did not suffer under the huge strain of debts, he lived comfortably in those days. But invariably the credit of these farmers was low and they usually groaned under the heavy toll of interests to pay.

Manufacture : The state of manufacture in the State of Nagpur was very poor. The implements and processes for these manufactures were of the same rude and simple - nature which was in practice in most parts of India. The - manufacture of common cloth particularly for the peasantry was in existence in almost all the districts.[1] Cotton cloths of better quality called Bhyrows were made by Dher weavers; the best were made in Nagpur. Selas for Duputtees, of good quality came from Pownee and Chanda. Doreeas of several -- kinds, Charkhanee, Sillaidar and imitations of those from - Bengal etc. came principally from Brahmapuri and Pownee. Patuls or Saris either plain or stripped with a silk border from five to forty rupees a piece, of fourteen to eighteen cubits long and from two and a quarter to three broad were woven best at Nagpur and Umrer. The Dhoties with silk and Selan tissue borders, cost from seven to eight Rupees per pair to 80/- Rs. to order. The cheaper and plainer cost, from a rupee to 25/- Rupees. The best were made in Nagpur and Umrer.[2]

With the above white cotton cloths were manufactured

1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.86.
2. Ibid, pp.86-87.

coloured cotton cloths as well. This kind of cloth prepared from dyed thread were of two sorts, either Kucha or Pukka according to the lasting nature of the dye. The turbans were made of all colours, the most expensive was red from safflower and the cheapest was brown from the bark of the mango tree. The clothes for women with fixed dye were made of four colours, dark blue from indigo, light blue, red -- from the Al or Morinda and green. Nagpur manufactured the best coloured cloth.[1]

Like the cotton clothsfor various apparel, silk clothsof a few variety were also manufactured in the Nagpur State for the male and female attire. The cloths were made of either silk or silk and cotton mixed or of the wild - silk called Tusur or that made of the last mixed with cotton. The City of Nagpur manufactured most of the silk cloths which industry reached a state of excellence, in the time of Raghuji II who induced the best workmen from Pytun on the Godavary, Zynabad and Burhanpur to come and settle in Nagpur.[2]

The woollen cloths manufactured in the country were only coarse blankets and Numdahs for domestic use of the value of one or two rupees each.[3]

The only cloth manufactured from Sun or hemp

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, pp.88-9.
2. Ibid, pp.89-90.
3. Ibid, pp.90-91.

was the coarse Tatputtee used for grain bags Sulletahs etc.[1]

Besides the manufacture of cloth the Nagpur State produced utensils of copper and mixed metal. These were manufactured principally at Bhundara, Ruttunpur and Chanda. The Kusars or braziers who manufactured them had also the sole right to sell such articles.[2]

Trade & Commerce : In the matter of trade and commerce the City of Nagpur served as the centre from which most of the business of the country was done. To it were - brought most of the commodities from foreign parts and -- from here they were distributed all over the country.

Internal Trade : The City sent out manufactur--ed articles of its own to the other districts and imported from them common necessaries of life like grains and cloths of different descriptions for its inhabitants. The City - distributed to the districts articles of prime necessities (which it had imported) such as salt, saltpetre, sulphur, metals,cocoanuts, spices etc. with cloths of foreign as well as home manufacture.[3]

Foreign Trade : Nagpur imported salt from Berar and Concan for the need of Deogarh and also from the

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.91
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid.

Eastern Coast for Chhutteesgarh and Chanda - From -- Mirzapur was received shawls, Kinkhabs, silks both raw and wrought, and different kinds of muslin - From Dacca it imported piecegoods and chitzes, raw sugar and sugar--candy, indigo and Kirana; the last named included spices and drugs of all kinds - Bundelkhund sent it red Kharwas, piecegoods, small quantity of sugar, Kirana and saltpetre.- From Bombay and Surat which transferred articles from -- Europe and China the City imported some goods, pearls, corals and salt.

Nagpur exported to foreign parts cloths,raw cotton, Goor, grain and small quantity of stick lac.[1]

Most of the Mirzapur and Benares trade was in the hands of Gosains residing in Nagpur. They even - controlled the trade of the countries south and west of Nagpur when the route by Surguja and Chhutteesgarh became safer than that by Rewah and Jubbulpur.[2] The trade in -- indigo, sugar, and Kirana from the north, with Kharwas and chintzes from Bundelkhund was in the hands of -- Chutterpurias who were agents of the mercantile houses in Chutterpur.[3] The trade in the above articles became profitable owing to the adoption of transport via --

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.92.
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid, p.93.

Surguja and Chhutteesgarh but later when the route changed by that of Umraoti it declined in importance.

The trade with Bombay and Surat dealing particular--ly in European and Chinese goods, was in the hands of Bohras who had settled in Burhanpur from where they conducted their business with Nagpur and the Western Coast. The Eastern trade was carried on by Uriyas and Gumastas of the trading houses in Cuttack and Juggernaut.[1]

Banking Transactions : Most of the Sahukars in the country were Marwaries. In the City of Nagpur there were only two banking houses conducted by Brahmins. The bankers and -shroffs generally made their profits from : The purchase of receipt on the spot, about a bullion transaction and which they sold afterwards at dearer rate than that at which they bought it. The importation from other quarters of gold and silver or copper coins, bullion and ornaments which they -- disposed of at a profit. Granting bills on other quarters and giving loans on the interest with the buying of objection--able rupees at a discount and reselling the same on more -advantageous terms were the other forms of business. Some of them made money out of the fluctuations in the current value of copper coins and Cowries.[2]

The business of the lesser class of bankers like

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.93.
2. Ibid, pp.96-7.

Mahajans, Bunias and Sunars was connected also with the money market but their transactions were more -- limited. Their interest on loans were higher.

The Sahukars traded in merchandise of various kinds both in the country and outside it. They dealt chiefly in Mirzapur goods. They also bought the goods of the country and exported it.[1]

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1. Jenkins, Report on the Nagpur Territories, p.97.